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JUL 19 1919

PAUL RADER'S SERMONS



PAUL RADER

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THE BOOK STALL

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FOREWORD

The following sermons were preached in the "Big Tabernacle" of the Moody Church, Chicago.

Thousands heard them and multitudes who could not gain entrance into the tabernacle, were turned away.

The proof of the power of these Gospel sermons is a great number of redeemed, regenerated and rescued, who bear triumphant testimony to the same.

To preserve the spirituality, simplicity and sincerity of the preacher, has been the purpose of the publishers who publish and present the sermons practically as preached.

There is everywhere much prayer for the blessing of God upon the messages contained herein.

—The Publishers.

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THE BLESSED HOPE

"Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ," Titus 2:13.

I want to talk to you to-night on this wonderful hope that we have, of the coming back of Jesus. As you have listened to this beautiful music, what a joy it has been to you to hear in song the blessed words: "*He is coming again!*" But oh, what a joy it is to think of the "time of music" that is ahead!

The devil has in his hands a good deal of the music down here to-day, but, thank God, there will be no music in hell, for all of it is going to be in glory. The devil may have a sort of trust on some of it now, but, bless God, he will have to resign when Jesus comes.

ON THE VERTEX

This thought of the coming back of Jesus ought to solemnize our hearts. It was wonderful for the men of old to have the hope of Jesus' coming, but it is far more wonderful for us to-day. The signs of His soon appearing are all 'round about us; we are living on the very vertex of it. We should praise God that we are living in this wonderful day and age of the world.

We have a great prospect, my friends. Almost any time, almost any day—perhaps to-night—we may be caught away. Oh, if you have not that hope, you will find out that there is just something lacking in your Christian life. With me, there was always a trying to get hold of something, until I found out that Jesus is coming back to the world again. Things do not head up right until you find out that He is Himself coming back to the earth. As you try to think the thing through, you are left in darkness, without this blessed hope.

BIBLE FULL OF IT

Some folks say, "Well, I haven't time to read it, and study it out." If you are saying that, you are admitting that you

have not time to read a great portion of your Bible, for very much of this Book is taken up with nothing else than Jesus' coming back again; so that you leave out by this statement much of your Bible. We might pick up your Bible and look it through and find a few little thumb-marks in the New Testament, maybe, and a little in Psalms, and, perhaps, a little bit in Genesis, where you try to find out how it all started, but outside of that you haven't any Bible; but, praise God, when you realize God's plan in the coming back of Jesus Christ, you will have a whole Bible and a whole circle of truth. You have in His coming a place of reckoning. Like a surveyor, you have a line, a base, from which to work. It puts the cap on things, the climax on things. Then there is an end to your thinking. There is a goal to work toward; it pays to wait, for you are waiting for something sure. It pays to be patient, for He will come as He promised. It is a blessed hope truly in your heart as the days go by.

NOT AT DEATH

Now I find that a great many people are saying that the coming of Jesus is simply the time when we die. That is one of the great theories with which folks are fighting the teaching of the coming back of Jesus to this world. Listen: My Bible tells me that the coming back of Jesus is a "blessed hope." Did anybody ever tell you a casket was a blessed hope? No man looks ahead to the time he is going to die as a blessed hope. It is lovely to know that maybe you will be caught up without dying. "Oh, wonderful thought—shall we go without dying?"

Think of it, my friend! If Jesus were to come to-night, this is the hope: that as you sit there in your seat, as quickly as you can bat your eye you will be changed, "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye." No death—no dying—no agony—no struggle. Those who have already died and passed on are to see the Lord first—"The dead in Christ shall arise first," and afterwards, He says, those of us who remain "shall be caught up to meet Him in the air, and thus shall we ever be with the Lord!" Hallelujah!

THE FIRST-FRUITS

Jesus' disciples saw that wonderful body of His come into the room where the door was shut. What a wonderful thing! Friend, do you know that a Christian is a supernatural man? There is nothing common about him. Think of it—that inside the breast of a man or a woman who has been born again, there is a new creature, an absolutely new creature. Nothing like it has ever been seen in the world but once; and that was when Jesus Himself came back from the dead; then was this wonderful kind of new creature seen. He was the first-fruits.

I see this great bird sailing off in the air, high up in the sky; they tell me it is an eagle. I see a huge kind of animal roaring in the forest, and with a voice like a trumpet he shakes the trees—and they tell me that is a lion.

I see this little bird, a little yellow affair, twittering in the branches; they tell me it is a canary.

There is another kind of life in the ocean—a fish.

But was there ever this kind of life on the earth where comes a man into a room, and the doors are shut? Jesus has entered into that room and is in their midst. Thank God, my Bible tells me that He is the first-fruits of them that sleep, and that afterwards the rest of us are to have a body like unto His glorious body. The disciples looked at Him with their natural eyes, and as He talked to them He looked like an ordinary man; but as He began to break the bread with two men and lifted His hands from the table-cloth, He gave Himself away, for they saw the holes in His hands—and He vanishes out of their sight.

NEW CREATION

Here is another kind of creature that the world has never seen before: The resurrected Jesus; but, thank God, thousands and thousands of them are going to be back in the world again, made like our Lord Jesus Christ, at His coming. If that is a fairy tale to you, thank God it is not to me. I recognize that God can easily, in a moment, transform my body. I did not see how He could transform my disposition and my soul, and when I found out that God could get at the very functioning

of my being and my personality and subdue my will and cast out my sin and the devil and the power that was within me and raging in my heart, bless God, I knew it wasn't going to be very hard for Him to change that body of mine.

You chemists know how easily elements are combined. Friends, God has the combination of all the elements, and as far as His transforming my body is concerned, that has never been anything for me to doubt. God handles life, and since He has transformed my soul and filled me with His own Spirit, I am just waiting for the time when the rest of it, the outside shell, shall all be changed like unto His own in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.

OUR RICHES

We used to live by a family whose father had discovered a mine about three miles from Leadville, and struck it rich. The prospectors had given him figures on it, and the father owned about sixty per cent. of the mine himself. And that father and mother and children used to sit there on their front porch and do nothing but plan what they were going to do when they got that money. And after a while the money came—a fortune—and they carried out most of the plans they had made back there on the porch.

Thank God, I can sit on my front porch to-night and talk about something that will do more than money will, for I am going to live eternally with Him! He is coming for us shortly. I am going to have a "body like unto His own glorious body." Since He has promised me a body like unto His own and to let me come back in this world with Him, reigning with Him, ruling with Him, I tell you, my friend, I can forget everything in this world that is not of God. This blessed hope holds you in the hour of temptation; this blessed hope keeps you strong when men are telling you of some big thing that is going to come to pass in this world.

A BIG PARADE

They tell you about a big parade that is coming when men shall show great marvels of discovery. Thank God I know a

bigger parade than theirs—when Jesus shall come in the sky to execute judgment with ten thousand of His saints. It may seem an idle dream to some, but it is not an idle dream to many who have Jesus in their heart. I know there are many precious saved people who have not this hope, but thank God there are thousands of Christians to-day who are getting it. They are going to Bible Conferences by the thousands. Open up a Bible Conference, and the Christians will flock to it to get the truth. They are hungry to know about the coming of the Lord. Oh, it is lovely to sit down and count your money and find out how rich you are going to be in glory!

“A tent or a cottage, why should I care?
They’re building a palace for me over there.
I’m the child of a King, the child of a King,
With Jesus my Saviour, I’m the child of a King.”

What more of a mansion do I want than a new body like unto the One that came into that room to His disciples, on that night? See Him with that body on the shore; He has the fish ready for His disciples as they come from the boat. Jesus, Jesus, in this room to-night. My Jesus, your Jesus, I hope, and if He is not yours, this is the night that you can make Him yours if you will. Oh, we argue so much that we forget sometimes what a glorious hope we have in Him.

See what it says in Second Peter 3:13, 14: “Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness; wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless.”

KEEP LOOKING

You are waiting for the great event, and it pays to be “diligent.” It pays to be looking up all the while. I find that this hope, if you have it, really separates you from the world. You begin to realize that somehow there is a life that you have that is not common life. You begin to realize the mighty working of Jesus Christ in your heart; this wonderful working of the Spirit of Jesus on our natures, on this old thing we have turned over to Him. It is not that you say: “I am bet-

ter than other people," but oh, you begin to say to yourself, "My, it is a wonderful thing to be saved." You begin to love other people and say, "I wish they had what I have!" It separates you from the things of sin. You do not want to defile God's body that you have given over to Him. You do not want to be touched by the things of the world. You want to walk in such a way that the moment He comes you will be ready for Him to take you away.

I know we are preaching much about the security of our salvation, but I tell you these warnings mean something. It means something for a Christian to be up-to-date every minute in the Lord. There is a warning here, "That ye might be found of Him in peace, without spot and blameless."

You look forward to it, you wait for it, you have your hope fixed in Him and Him alone. It may be to-night, it may be to-morrow, and so you can wait and be patient and you can afford to set aside the temptations of the devil, with this hope within you.

HE COULDN'T STEAL

I remember of a colored boy in a certain family; after the folks had come home from meeting he came to the boss of the house and confessed that he was going to steal something while they were all out.

He says: "Boss, I was going to steal something to-night, but about the time I was going to take it, I would feel like somebody was coming in the front door; then I would feel like somebody was coming in the back door; then I thought I heard somebody cough out on the walk—and it kept me from taking it, all the time."

I tell you, my friends, if you really have the hope of Jesus' coming, you find out that it is a great help in the hour of temptation. You say "I cannot tie up with this kind of a business; I cannot connect myself up with these people, and those people, and the other people." Why? "I hear a footstep coming down the stairway from heaven, and He may be here in a moment. Jesus may step in the next moment and be with us."

It is not frightening us into it, but friends, it is a constant guardian of our attention; we forget so readily. It is so easy

for us to get our mind upon something of the world and center here, and God wants to absolutely fix our mind and our attention upon this: "Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." That is the next great event in this world; I am waiting for a parade, when everything that is of earth, as far as we are concerned, of the tears, and the sorrow and the sighing and the temptation, miraculously march off forever, and we are one with Him, and become new creatures in Christ Jesus in body as well as in soul and spirit.

That is what God offers to the soul that will take it—a new life, a new being, incorruptible, that does not fade away—a God-given inheritance.

JOHN NEWTON'S CONVERSION

We were reading this morning in family worship about the conversion of John Newton. He was a very wicked sailor, and as they sailed along one night on the ship, after a night of debauchery and drunkenness and dissipation, in agony of soul he went to sleep, under conviction. He dreamed that he stood at the side of the ship with a magnificent jewel in his hand, and satan seemed to come alongside and say: "I dare you to drop that into the ocean." He took the dare and as he did, something seemed to whisper to his heart, "You have lost your soul. There it is down there."

In another vision Jesus stood beside him, and He asked him if he wanted his soul and wanted his life. "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

"Yes, I want it," said Newton. Jesus immediately dived from the deck, and before long, with agony upon His face, and showing the horrors of the effort through which He had gone, He appeared again and had the little jewel in His hand. Newton reached his hand out to get it, but the Saviour drew it back. "Oh no," He said, "I gave it to you once, and you were careless with it and threw it away, but I will keep it for you now. It is yours, but it will never be thrown away again."

GOD'S GIFT

Hallelujah, that is our salvation! God gave men this life, and they threw it away. The devil tempted you, and you let it sink. God help you to see that outside of God you are lost, man, you are lost, woman. You have let go; you have let the devil in, and if Jesus asks you to-night to walk up and take life from Him, the devil tries to keep you in that seat; he wants you to go out again into the giddy world and forget you are lost.

LIFE RESCUED FROM DEATH

As God looked down upon us, He saw us lost and undone—perishing. PERISHING! Oh, how that word makes my soul thrill with agony and horror for men. I have heard it in the night hours, I have heard it in the morning hours. Friend, let me tell you: there is nobody can ever dive into death and get your life back but Jesus Christ. Jesus broke the laws of death. He appears in the room with His disciples with the life in His own hands. There He is—His body, a body like ours, transformed. He enters, the doors being shut, and says: "Here is your life—I am your life." What did He say to Mary and Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life." HIMSELF. He says, "Because I live, ye shall live also." Praise God, I am so glad my life is in Jesus. He is my life. God gave Him life and power over all flesh. The Scripture says in Jesus' prayer in the seventeenth of John: "As Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given Him." He is holding our new bodies safe in His keeping, and will deliver them. Oh blessed hope!

GOD'S OFFER

He is calling you to-night. What does He offer you? This life He has died for; He has broken the powers of death and now He offers you a living soul, forever. Friend, do you hear me? Are your ears so dull that you cannot hear the Gospel message, that Jesus Christ has life, and you have none unless you get it from Him? You know not the way to God, and there is no other way to get to God and life outside of Jesus

Christ. If you have not Jesus Christ in your life, my friend, I would not care if you belonged to fifty churches, and went every day, or had gone through confirmation or been baptized, or any other kind of ordinance. If I did not have the witness from heaven that I was a child of God, I would get it to-night. I would not be bluffed by the organizations of men nor the theories of men. I would have life, straight out of God's heart. And wait with this new life throbbing in my breast for His appearing and a new body as His own.

MORTGAGE PAID

When Jesus died and His Blood was spilt on Calvary, He paid the debt for your life. He took over the old business or body and then He is going to tear the whole old structure of the body down and put up a new; He paid the mortgage on the old place. Like the rich man Mr. Dawes told about, who went back to the little New England farm: the little farm and house where his father had lived. When he got there, he found that the man who now owned it had a mortgage of \$17,000 on the place. He took a carpenter along with him, and they walked around the buildings. He asked the carpenter: "What will it take to bolster up the old barn?" And the carpenter said: "It is useless; it can't be patched up."

They looked at the old house, and he asked him: "How can you fix it up?" But the carpenter said: "You can't patch that, either; it is useless. The boards are rotten and the foundation is rotten—the whole thing is rotten."

"What shall we do?" he asked him.

"Do you love this spot?" asked the carpenter.

"I certainly do love this old spot—this was my father's farm and buildings."

"All right, then, we can build another house just like this one—a new one."

So they tore down the old one and in its place put up a new one, just like it. The man paid the mortgage off, and built a new house on the old spot.

Thank God, Jesus' Blood paid the mortgage on this old farm of ours. These old bodies are wrecked and ruined by

sin, and God could not have lived in them and get His glory in them as He desired. So His Son paid the mortgage on our souls: the old spot—and soon the buildings: our bodies—will be made new.

Oh, it is detestable to the heart of God these days to hear a lot of theories about the divine spark in man, when he is a dirty, tumble-down, rotten shack on the outside, and eaten upon the inside by the mortgage of sin.

But Jesus has paid the mortgage, and will give you a new heart; you are born again, and the Holy Spirit can come in then and dwell in your heart. He will give you a new house to live in later; perhaps to-night.

NEW HOUSES—NEW CITY

Then He is coming back to collect all the houses He has made, put us all together, so we will be a city. That is the New Jerusalem; a city; you are a house, and I am a house. I do not know what street you are living on, but I am on the corner of Joy Street and Hallelujah Avenue, and you can live there, too, if you want to. God has given you a mansion, in this wonderful city of our God, that cometh down out of heaven: this wonderful city, the Bride of the Bridegroom.

This is the wonderful creation God offers you to-night. It is not a theory. Jesus demonstrated it before the eyes of His disciples; this wonderful resurrection body of Jesus was shown openly and handled!

WARNING IN OUR DAY

We have a lot of theories these days, but God wants real faith in your heart. If you believe that Jesus can change you in a moment and in the twinkling of an eye, and it may be any one of these days, do you mean to tell me that you are not going to separate from these things of the world? You will say "I cannot afford to have any of this stuff hanging to me. I will restore to any man anything I have wronged. I will clean up, I will get straight with men and women." The coming of Jesus is the warning in our day, my friend. As Noah preached to his day and said: "The flood is coming,"

the warning of our day is that the tribulation is coming and the Bride must make ready for Jesus' coming. "He that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure."

HARD?

Do you say, "It is a hard life to live"? *Hard?*—and you may have a glorified body in ten minutes? Oh, God, somehow put a faith in us to-night that will laugh at the little persecutions of earth. Oh, we need a glorious vision of what it is to be saved. He may come at any moment. Can you say you are ready, brother? Ready for that soul's bright home? Sister, brother, are you ready? You can be ready.

It will consecrate you. It will get you to the place where you say, "Lord, yes—I see why you want me to be given up to you."

IT FOCUSES THE SOUL

It focuses the soul. It gets your mind fixed on one thing. It seemed to me I had about ten different minds before Jesus became all and in all. One day I would think this way, and the next day a few arguments would switch me over and I would think the other way. But, friends, when you get all that you have in Jesus, and center in Him, thank God you live a peaceful, steady sort of a life. Your heart will be fixed; your eyes will be fixed; and folks will know right where you are stepping. They know you have made up your mind to go along with Jesus and are going right along that way. We talk about a "bee-line." That bee never loses sight in his mind of that little hive, all the time he is flying; and you will not lose sight of that little hive of yours up there in glory, where God's honey is stored and soon to be given out to His own. You will be making a bee-line for it, every day.

When you get the hope of the coming of Jesus Christ, you will have one ambition. Folks won't worry about stepping on your toes. You will be picking them up so fast they can't step on them anyhow. You are headed right.

ARE WE READY?

Brother, are you ready? Sister, are you ready? Suppose the thing was to strike here to-night. How about you?

I STRIKE MY HAND

Now it is all over. Suppose the whole thing had struck as I struck my hand just now—how about you? That is exactly how quick it is coming. The devil is trying to tell you you have a lot of time, but listen: When it comes you will have no time to prepare. It comes faster than death. Death may creep on and you may have three or four weeks of preparation—but Jesus may come to-night—in a moment. He says: “Watch, for you know neither the day nor the hour that the Son of man cometh.”

God help you to wake up! Supposing it was all over, just a few moments ago—where would you be? Just answer this—don’t put any “if’s” or “ands” in it—*where would you be?* Inside or outside?

“ON THE WAR-PATH”

This subject was suggested to me when Mr. Johnson and Mr. Woolley came home from Canada. Mr. Woolley needed a vacation very badly, so he took one of twenty-four hours. I don't know how many pounds he gained, but I gained a lot of information myself. Woolley tells me everything he knows, and then I preach.

He told me how one of the boys there in Canada who had gone to the front had written his mother that there was no “V. C.” blood in him. His duty was to carry ammunition along a certain road, and he wrote that the enemy had their range exactly and had dropped bombs all along the road, on every side of them; that the war-path was strewn with the bodies of dead men, dead animals, broken-up wagons, all sorts of explosions had occurred—and every time he took a step he trembled.

GREAT WASTE

My friends, because we appear to be living in peace to-day, so in contrast to war, we seem to be calm about some of the great waste of life about us. Men are being hurled into eternity by the thousands, going into death by the millions—men who know not Jesus. On life's war-path to-night are strewn the carcasses of men and women, young and old, all over the world. Sin and war, my friends, are greatly alike. I want to call your attention to-night to the resemblances between the war-path and the path of a sinner; to give you a little comparison.

God says in the sixth chapter of Romans, the twenty-third verse: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

What a wonderful verse!

THEY VOLUNTEER

The wages of sin is death. The wages of war is death. There is no other end to either. They go into it for death.

They volunteer for death. They march out with death-dealing instruments on their shoulders, with their great engines pulling the guns of destruction and of death.

Sin, my friends, is to end in death, and all along the path of the sinner there are strewn the carcasses of men and of women who have sinned. Death comes to men from sin as it does in war from bullets.

EXPLOSIVE SIN

There are some folks who creep along in sin and die; there are other men in whom sin simply explodes—the devil drops his awful bomb and they are gone. I had a boy friend in college, on the foot-ball team; he was considered one of the best fellows in college—and he went on a trip one day. He met a woman; he had never met her like in the world before. His father had money; and inside of three weeks he was gone—sin had grabbed him, taken him captive. The poor father and mother were horrified, the school was horrified—but he was gone. He had not only shot her, but shot himself. It was an explosion. And so sin, my friends, on the war-path takes some people that quickly. Others live along, travel a little further, and sin's death gets them, but with some it is an explosion.

A QUICK SHOT

A poor man, with a wife and two children, living in the valley near Dayton, when the flood came went to his home from his work and found the mother gone, the children gone. He never had taken a drink in his life as far as anybody knew—what made him do it then no one knew—but he went to another part of the town, began to talk with some men there, and the first thing they knew his head was inflamed with liquor. Two weeks after that he woke up in jail, and has to serve years for the things that took place.

I say to you, my friends, if you do not know the awful deadliness of sin, wake up to-night! The wisest man on earth is the man who reckons on the awful power of sin. Here are boys to-night on that war-path; some of them whistle and some sing and some crack their dull jokes as they go along;

but friends, there is only one safe place to walk, and that is under the sheltering protection of the Blood and power of Jesus Christ. No bomb can touch you there. Praise God that you can go out and in and find pasture with Him, while the war-path is strewn with bombs.

MEN GO CRAZY

There is suicide in war. Men go crazy. Men went out with romance in their hearts, but have gone crazy, with the poison of the food, with the lack of sleep, with the noise.

My friend, a young man, came back to the University from the Spanish War, and told me about an experience that happened in his tent one night, when two of the boys suddenly went insane. One of them drew his own sabre and stuck it into his heart. They went to pieces, because of the poison of the food. There are thousands of people who are committing suicide, going madly into sin, because of the poison of it. It poisons men. I have looked into faces of men who have sin soaked in their hearts, and they are poisoned, they are doped, they are wild: and they go right along into it. My grandfather used to tell about a charge in the Civil War; how the boys hadn't had any sleep, nothing to eat, their shoes worn out, their clothing worn out; they could hardly carry their muskets; but when he gave the order to charge, they charged face foremost into the enemy without even lifting a gun, and the slaughter was terrific.

ANXIOUS TO PLUNGE

There are young fellows to-night waiting for the cabaret show to open, that they may charge into the things of sin. There are young women to-night, wild to plunge into sin; there is the girl who, like a fool, heedless of the mother who begs her not to go with that fellow, leaps into the leper's arms. Into that vile, rotten man's arms, his rotten lips upon her cheeks, she plunges, in the face of her mother who pleads with her to turn aside. Oh, the awful wreck from sin there is to-night! Oh, as you see the wreck of home and of young womanhood in our day, as you walk the streets, it makes you cry

out to God to send salvation to young men and young women. I beg you in God's name, cover yourselves with the cleansing Blood of Jesus, and let Him keep you from sin! Jesus wants to save you, He is anxious to be your Saviour, He is pleading with you to step out, and if you dare to step out, praise God, He will take you.

TRAITORS?

There are others who are traitors, there are others who are spies, in warfare. Oh, how many men are betraying young life. How many women are betraying young life. When they began to look into the white slave trade, they found that women—women who knew what a horrible, awful thing it was to lose everything precious to themselves in virtue,—were loaning their aid to get young girls in a life of shame. There are men taking young men to teach them the business of sin; talking about the habits of sin, joshing and joking about the deep things of crime, about the sacredness of womanhood, fooling and telling stories about it in the presence of young men; these are the men who are traitors to God, these are the men who are in league with the devil.

Oh my friends, it was an awful thing in Ireland for those men to have to be shot down by a government which they had tried to put out of commission. It was an awful thing in our country to have to take a traitor out and shoot him; but think of it! There are men who are traitors against God; God, who is trying to get men out of sin and give them liberty.

THE SHOW SYSTEM

God help you to-night to get out of the world system that is filled with its sin, and join Jesus Christ. The trouble with Christians these days, my friends, is that there is too much lolly-pop life with us. We need a little hard persecution, in order to stick by Jesus Christ. We have too many people who are liars about this thing. I ask you which ones of you are Christians and you will raise your hand in the tabernacle, and the next night will find you in some dirty show, having your lowest sensations tickled. There isn't a show on earth

that hasn't behind it a great system of cultivating the passions of men and women. It is all sin promotion—that is how they get their money. Oh, friend, let Jesus into your heart to-night. I am so glad to-night I have an experience that is real and know what Jesus can do for a sinful heart. I am so glad that somehow God arrested me, tried me, found me guilty of sin, and then gave me Jesus to pay it all and set me free.

THE ROMANCE

Next, this call to the world-warfare, and sin, is just alike. The colors are there, there seems to be a romance about it. Young men go out under patriotic speeches, but they are going to death. And the devil imitates that sort of thing himself. The devil gets the music to going, he puts in the lights, puts in the song, he puts in the dance, he puts in the martial music and the little wiggle that is in the dance, and all the elusiveness of it, and even parades himself with the fancy dancers. He starts out a young couple of fancy dancers with the latest dances and isn't satisfied to have them in New York, but sends them out over the country to teach everybody else how to wiggle themselves to hell. The call to the devil's work and to sin, my friends, always has fine music with it, it looks like it is going to come out fine, but from that dark line of death and of hell, men will never march back.

NO MEDALS

There never will be a time when the medals will be passed out to them; it is forever, to eternity, into the jaws of death, because they refuse Jesus Christ as their Saviour. God help you to take Him to-night. He offers to take you off the war-path, and Himself to be the Captain of your salvation. God made Him perfect through suffering, so that He was able to succor those that are tempted. The Lord knows I am tempted, He knows you are tempted, but praise God we have a mighty Saviour that can save from sin and keep from sin. He will hold you fast. God only wants to get hold of you.

SIN ALONE?

Neither a soldier nor a sinner ever suffers alone. No, my friend, if some of you think you do, you are altogether mistaken. When that soldier goes out in the trench and fires his gun and the bomb explodes and these five men are blown to pieces, this poor fellow lies on the dump in his agony and cries for the doctor, and at the going down of the sun his soul passes out and he is gone. There they are to-night by the thousands, dying like that,—the worst war the world has ever known. But my friend, right out of this tabernacle to-night, perhaps some young man, some older man, some young woman, some older woman, will go out into sin and think they are going to die alone and suffer in sin alone. No sir, no man can sin alone, no woman can sin alone.

FAMILY, TOO

Think of young Orpet who is being tried, his father and mother sitting by him, and on the other side an old father and mother—they used to be friends of the family before, but now a little girl is dead. Is he the only one injured? No, every one connected with him is tainted, families ruined, homes wrecked; it wasn't his own sin alone; others had to share it with him. Every time there is a sinful boy in a home, the whole family is affected by him. He is not just one black sheep alone, but every sheep in the family suffers with him.

HOMES SUFFER

When they bring the news back from the firing-line, that fellow that is shot doesn't suffer alone, but every one in the family suffers with a broken heart. The suffering out yonder to-night is nothing to the suffering when the news is brought back, when in the days to come the poor widows and orphans have to make their way in this world, weakened by the loss of the men who have gone out to their death. War is hell; it is an awful picture of sin. You cannot suffer alone. The sins of your life will have to go on with other people. Praise God that only the power of Jesus Christ can break that power

and cut that connection and let the Blood of Jesus Christ take care of the past and of the future. What a wonderful thing Jesus offers to you, men and women,—that if you come down these aisles and take Him to-night, God forgives the past, and puts it away as though you had never sinned! Glory to God!

WHY STAY?

God help you to see the awfulness of sin to-night, and what a fool a man is to stay in it when Jesus offers the chance to get out; offers to cleanse you so that God looks at you as if you had never sinned.

A young fellow down South said to his father one day: "I am going out to-night." They were sitting at the table, his mother and sisters there. The father said: "Where are you going?" The boy told him, and the father rose up from the table and said: "You are not going out to-night, my son—you are not going to go with that girl."

"What business is it of yours?"

"I am your father."

"Well, I am going with whoever I please—that is nothing to you, is it?"

"Bert, we have a family. We have a right to know who you go with. Surely a father has some rights, a mother has some rights, and Bert, you are the only boy and there are five daughters in my home. If you make a misstep it throws dirt upon them and the whole family. As a man and as your father I beg of you to give that woman up."

Bert turned and whirled around, and said to the whole lot of them: "What do I care? It is my business. I will go with whom I please."

One of the sisters close to his age who had chummed with him, came running to him and threw her arms around him and said: "Bert, you will stay at home to-night, won't you?"

"Look here, sis, it is none of your business. I am an individual; I have some rights."

The father talked to him again in the parlor before he went, and said to him, "Bert, I think I could take a gun and shoot

your brains out and be happier than to see you go out that door like this."

The boy said: "That is it—for your own selfishness—you would like to blow my brains out. I have a right to do what I please."

Oh, a great many of you here to-night think you have a right to sin as you please, when you please, and as long as you please, but I say to you, you are not going to answer to God for the sin in your own life, but for the sin you put in other lives.

SIN SURPRISES

The boy walked out of that home, and he never any more expected to be in jail that night than to fly to the moon. They were sitting around a table in an adjoining town, a few of them. They had been drinking; there was another young fellow there who had been going with this girl. The girl wanted to break with Bert—his father hadn't given him enough money to suit her—and when this other young fellow insulted him, he turned to the girl, grabbed his revolver—nobody ever knew where he got it—and pinned her first, and the man afterwards. The people grabbed him and took him to the jail, and in another wagon carried home two dead bodies. And that whole family of girls, that noble father, a heartbroken, suffering group of those who loved him, had to walk out behind that casket after the crowd had gathered at the jail and seen him hanged by the neck, dead.

HE DELIVERS

My God, teach some of you people what sin is to-night—sin—*sin*—SIN—the stuff that is in your life, that Jesus can take out, that He can put away from you as far as the East is from the West. He will keep you from sin, from the bombs of the devil, the wiles of the devil, the temptation of the devil. Hallelujah, I am telling you about something that is real! Jesus does exactly the thing I am talking about: cleanses and delivers.

The record never can be written of war. What newspaper can ever publish the sufferings of this war up to date, the

things the soldiers have done when they have gone in to a town, the poor, suffering women ravaged, the awful horrors that have swept over a village. The papers say "So many thousands dead," but that isn't a millionth part of all the suffering—the famine that goes with it, the stricken, broken hearts. Think of the Armenian question alone. One of the men who seems to know the most about it says that over a million of them have gone down in that bloody slaughter, and one man in the province of Van boasted that in twenty-four hours he would rid that province of 50,000 Armenians. And made the boast good.

WAKE UP!

My friends, the world is full of sin to-night. Wake up before Jesus comes back, and get under the Blood of Jesus Christ! I say to you that we are living in the most terrific day the world has ever known. You may call me a fanatic if you please but bless God I will try to wake you up to the awful things round about us. God help you men and women to stay out of sin to-night, and see the clouds of judgment just ahead.

NO RECORD HERE

The record can never be written here, but every bit of it is up there and it is against you unless the Blood of Jesus Christ has blotted it out. That is God's way, and it is perfectly just. Why? Because you can have cleansing to-night if you will take the step and confess Him before men. You can have it for nothing, simply if you will take it. There is a good deal up to your will to-night, that little will power that has taken you to sin and said, "Yes" to the devil. You have in your breast to-night the decision that will land you into heaven forever or into hell forever. God help you to see it. You don't have to theorize. God says to you "Come" and you, with your stubborn will say back to Him, "I won't come"—and you go on in this war-path of sin.

NO FEAR

There are lots of folks who have not the fear of God in their hearts. There are men who will ruthlessly run into danger. Some of you say, "Mr. Rader, my conscience is all right." My friends, the man who sees sin as he ought to see it, and then says he wants to run with it, there is only one charitable thing to say about such a man—and that is that he is a fool.

IF YOU WILL

It is all up to your will. We have books, books, books, published about the divinity of Jesus Christ. Let me tell you something. That poor down-and-out drunkard that just says "Yes" to the first message he hears about Jesus, and staggers up the aisle and falls at the altar and trusts Jesus Christ, will know more about the divinity of Christ than all the high-brows who haven't taken Jesus as a Saviour will know in a million years. Mary, simple Mary, Lazarus' sister, knew of the divinity of Jesus, knew He was to die, and anointed Him for His burial. She knew Him. You can know Him, thank God, and He will reveal Himself to you in a peculiar way—there will not any two of you have the same experience, but you will say, "I am talking about the same person."

HE TALKS

Always He talks to your will—He says, "I can explain it if you will obey Me." What does a man know about what a beefsteak can do who will not put it in his stomach? What does a man know about what water can do who will not drink it? He will die in agony without water, but if he just drinks it, not knowing anything about it, he will live. Jesus is water, He is bread, He is life itself, and He will reveal Himself to you, when?—when you consent to turn from your sin and obey Him.

On Christmas morning we throw back the doors and all come in to what? We say, "What is in that package?" "I don't know, but I think it is so-and-so." "What do you think is in the other one?" What are you all in for? Do you know

what you are going to get? No, but it is the time for gifts, so you all come in, and when you open them up, you will know.

A GIFT

Jesus gives life, and His gift is to be put into your heart; then when He by His Spirit unwraps it you will know. No man in all the world ever sought Jesus who did not find Him. He has the gift, and you are to come—that is your part.

NESBITT'S STORY

This is Henry Nesbitt's story as I heard it. He was a lawyer in a little town in Missouri in his younger days. He had a dear little wife whom he said he loved, and they came out to Colorado to live. He was an orator, and such a brainy jovial fellow that all the folks loved him. They wanted to elect him to office, but his wife kept him back for his own sake. His wife knew the Lord, trusted the Lord, but he made fun of her when she prayed. They had gone to school together, and I remember how he told of taking the ribbon off her hair in school and tying something else on it. He was a great big fellow, about six feet two and weighed two hundred and sixty or two hundred and seventy pounds, with a splendid face; and he came from a fine family.

His wife was a timid little soul, who wouldn't argue with him,—she just lived it. Henry didn't pay any attention to what she said; he would say, "She is a lovely little woman, but her head isn't big." All the fellows looked up to Nesbitt, but he didn't know the Lord, and how many boys in that city would say, "Nesbitt don't belong to the Lord; and he is a pretty good fellow!" They didn't know he was being preserved in the sugar of prayer, that his wife was holding him up to the Lord all the time.

Take these sweet, godly women out of the world, and things would go to rack and ruin in a short time.

Nesbitt would say to her: "Listen, tell me this."

"I can't tell you anything," she would answer. "There is no arguing with you. I just have it in here—I can't tell you about it."

They were sitting at a meal one day, and had the first artichokes they ever had. They had never tasted them before. She pulled off one of the little leaves, and skinned it in her teeth—and said, "Wait a minute, don't eat yours yet. Now ask me how it tastes."

"What is the use? You couldn't tell me how a thing tastes. I'll have to try myself."

"Sure, that's it," she replied. "To know what I am tasting, all you have to do is to pull off your leaf, stick it in your mouth, and what you taste then will be the same as what I am tasting. It is the same way with the life of Jesus in the soul, Henry Nesbitt!"

We know that we know and we don't know how we know, but we know that we know.

One day she asked a number of women to come and pray with her in the afternoon, and she said to them, "I only brought you up here to pray for Henry, not for me. I am going fast. A few more days and I'll be in glory."

They came when she died; they had part of the funeral service in the house, the rest down at the big brown church where Nesbitt used to go sometimes Sunday mornings with her. He sat through it with a peculiar look on his face. Every one said, "I wonder what the judge will do now." He walked up to the house, and shut himself in the library, closed the window blinds, locked the doors, and told the servants to let him alone. Up and down, up and down, he walked. He knew he was up against it. He had looked into that little grave, and it had changed everything. He was facing life from a different angle than he had faced it before.

Oh wake up, friend—death is ahead of you! Why do we bluff ourselves?

He walked up and down in that room, and finally said: "Oh God, I have got to find you! I have got to find you or I will die." He turned and with one great fist lifted in the air he said, "Oh God, I will! I don't know what it is, but I will." And he threw himself over a plush chair and cried as though his heart would break, and as he did a great vase, the handsomest one in their beautiful home, fell and broke all to pieces.

He got on his feet and said, "Am I crazy? What made the vase fall?" Then he began to reason: "Vases don't fall of themselves. I don't know who has been listening, but somebody moved that vase." He stood there and said, "Come out from behind those portieres: some one must be behind this vase breaking."

A servant came out, trembling, and said, "Sir, I only wanted to help you, to keep you from dying. They elected me to come in here to protect you against yourself. Sir, they feared you would commit suicide."

"That is all right, you can go," said Nesbitt, and the minute the man had gone, without any Scripture verse on his lips, for he knew none of it by heart; he only knew the life of his wife and what she had told him, he said, "I see it. That vase fell because somebody pushed it. I fell over this chair crying of God to you because you pushed me. You are after me, Lord—you have been after me since I was a boy. Lord, I will, I will, I will."

Then God said to him, "Look at the vase. That is the costliest thing in your house isn't it, broken to wake you up? Well, I broke the costliest prize of heaven for your salvation. I gave my best for you."

Nesbitt saw it all in a flash, and continued to say, "Lord, I will, I will. I've resisted your best offers but at last I will. I'll quit the sin that made you suffer, and your Blood pays. I count it done."

Yes, the old days were over. Nesbitt left the old war-path of sin.

Will you leave it? *Will you?* Take one look at all its wages of death and hell and leave it, my friend. Will you? Jesus is the way out of sin.



“WILD OATS”

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not,” Gal. 6:7-9.

So many times we talk about this first verse: “As a man soweth, that shall he also reap,” but that does not mean enough unless you take the next verse, which states that the man who sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, and the man who sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

There is the flesh—we are all dead sure of that—but, thank God, there is a Spirit. Man isn’t conscious of it until God comes around and whispers into his heart. The Word of God is able to divide between soul and spirit and between spirit and flesh, and let a man know where he is sowing.

If God could pull back the curtain to-night and give us a glimpse of the spirit world, all our life would be changed in a moment. We would never think the same again. We would never be the same kind of folks if God were to take the lid off Hades to-night; show us Dives, of whom Jesus spoke. It was torment then; it is torment now. But that is not hell; it is a place where the wicked are waiting. The souls of the saints, those who are born of Jesus Christ, thank God, they went up. Paul says, “To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.”

THE UNDER WORLD

Those outside of Jesus Christ are yonder in Hades to-night. They have their mentality; they have their individuality. Dives, looking across the gulf, saw Lazarus and knew him as Lazarus. He talked to Abraham as a person, and Abraham talked back to him. He remembered his life on this earth, and

said to Abraham: "If you cannot come over here and do something for me, send back and do something for my brethren."

If God to-night would take the lid off Hades, your life would never be the same. You would get away from the things of the flesh and sow to the Spirit; you would let God come in and fill your spirit. You would see that that spirit of yours is going to live somewhere forever. If death ends it all, what would be the use of preaching to you? It would be useless. Oh, in this world we may have persecution, but, praise God, it will all be over before long and we will go sailing up, to be with God and to be with Jesus forever.

If God would take the lid off and let you see heaven to-night, my friend, you might think you would fly for that, but I doubt if you would, if you do not belong to Jesus. I may declare Jesus Christ in all His beauty, I may tell you of the magnificent gifts in Christ, but you say, "Oh, the preacher sees it, but I don't. Give me something I can see. Give me the money in my hand. Give me the pleasure I can draw to-day—this week—that is enough. What I can see—that is what I will take."

UNVEIL HEAVEN

If God were to unveil heaven, every last man and woman outside of Jesus Christ in this place would be on their faces—crying out to hide themselves from the face of Jesus Christ who sits on the throne.

There is a spiritual world. "God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." God is trying to open your eyes to the fact that this old body of yours has corruption in it; this flesh of yours is doomed to corruption; and Jesus Christ has come to redeem your soul and change these vile bodies of ours and has offered us a marvelous salvation that affects our body, and affects our spirit, and our soul. He takes us, spirit, soul and body, and transforms us by His own power.

HIS LIFE

I am in this pulpit to-night because I had a father who was a person and a mother who was a person, and those two

gave to me by the process of birth a personality. I am here with a face like my father's, some characteristics of my mother, and because they lived I am here to-night, my flesh walking the earth. My friend, if you ever get to walk around heaven, it will be because you met Jesus Christ and He put His Spirit into you. His life, His life alone, can save, and it is a gift.

So God says if you sow to the flesh you shall of the flesh reap corruption. Some man says to me, "Mr. Rader, why is this thing harmful, why is that thing harmful?" It sows to the flesh, it only enhances the flesh. I can afford to go with a beaten back, I can afford to go with my face pounded into a jelly by persecution, I can afford to starve, to go without anything decent to wear, to be called the off-scouring of the world—but at the end, praise God, I can be changed in a moment by Jesus Christ, and through eternity be His, in bliss, complete and new. I can afford to suffer persecution but I cannot afford, I cannot afford—hear me—I *cannot afford*—not to find Jesus and let Him make my soul alive. I must sow to the Spirit.

"Take the world, but give me Jesus,
All its joys are but a name;
But His love abideth ever,
Through eternal years the same."

Oh, friend, swap to-night. Take whatsoever may come in this life, but make dead sure that Jesus has come into your heart and changed your life; and if you sow to the Spirit you will reap everlasting life. You will have life—you surely will.

I have seen fellows come into a training camp, supposed to be athletes—fat, their eyes pudgy, living a dissipated life. And then I have seen them begin to work and to train. You say, "Better let them alone; they are in such poor condition, so out of shape, you better put them to bed." But they begin to train, and they begin to change, and new life comes to them: new vim, new punch, new energy. They couldn't run a mile when they tried it the first time; now they can hit it at a pretty good pace, and walk and dog-trot five miles and sprint at the end, and the muscles show through their skin,

and the fat goes; they come forth with a new kind of life, and here is the point. They are very conscious of this life.

NEW LIFE

And Jesus says that the man who tries to seek Him, who puts out his soul after Jesus Christ, praise God, Christ will manifest Himself to him in life. If you sow to the flesh, you will of the flesh reap corruption. As a man goes on developing his body, he knows that added strength is coming to him; knows what his appetite has come to be, what refreshing sleep comes. The other fellows come around, ask him how he feels: "I feel fine." What has come to him? New life. What was the other? Corruption.

Now he feels life, vigor, in every part of his body. Does he know it? Sure, he knows it. Does he feel it? Sure, he feels it. Do other people see it? Sure, other people see it. And I say to you, my friends, the man that touches Jesus Christ has gotten right at the very fountain of life. Will he feel it? Sure, he will feel it. Will he know it? Sure, he will know it. Will other folks know it? Sure, they will know it. Will the devil know it? I should say he would. He will roll on his back and say, "Where did that fellow get that kick?"

IN THE STRENGTH OF ANOTHER

Oh, it wasn't his. He sipped it out of the cup of salvation, and is going out to battle the devil in the strength of Another, in the name of Jesus. Thank God, a good many of us are here because we escaped from the devil; Jesus gave the victory, Jesus gave the power. We stopped sowing wild oats, stopped sowing to the flesh, and sowed a big yes to the Spirit. We did not know how the life came; neither did the athlete know how muscular life was added. Little by little his muscles came—but we didn't get it little by little. We opened our mouth and got it all in a gulp, and the old habits and the old life and the old gang went out, and Jesus started His work on our old constitutions and old souls and old brains. His Spirit witnessed right away with our spirits that we were the children of God. Do we know we have Him? Thank God, I should say

we do. Oh, you can afford, friend, to go without everything else, but you cannot afford to go without Jesus Christ. He is life, life. Say a big yes to His Spirit's pleading to-night.

There was that poor woman at the well, the poor old sinner—she was pitiful. My, she certainly had a reputation around her little village; and Jesus had her number. He said to her: "Go call your husband." Wasn't that sweet in Him? He knows how to get it out, the whole story. He just says, "Call your husband."

"I haven't any husband."

"Yes, that is right, you told the truth, my dear woman, you have had seven husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband." And in a moment the whole door was opened and she saw that her whole life was sown to the flesh. In a moment she had a look at the rottenness of flesh, of what it meant to be without God. Oh, the flesh smells to heaven, but the Spirit of God gives life.

WITHOUT EVERLASTING LIFE

Take a steer and stab him and leave him out in the pasture, and he may not smell very bad to-day, but to-morrow it will begin to come, and the next day it is worse. Why? There is no life in it. The life has gone out of him. Listen: You are a stabbed steer without Jesus Christ. You may not smell to heaven to-day. You may say, "I'm living a pretty good life," but to-morrow the stink will go up to heaven forever. It is flesh and it is filled with corruption. There is no life in you until you find Jesus. "He that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption." The man who sows to the Spirit takes Jesus in, bless God, he kicks up his heels and runs through life's pastures, and he is a mighty live one, I tell you.

God help you to-night to have the glory of His life within you. It is not a theory, it is the personal life of Jesus Christ coming into your heart. Man, God doesn't care what your sin has been, Jesus doesn't care whether it has been big or little, flesh is slated for corruption; we are born in sin, by our very nature. Why? Because "we have turned every one to his own way," the flesh way. Take a steer and rope him, and pull

the knot up tight around his neck, and give it a good twist, and somebody will come up and say: "Isn't he a good steer?" "Yes, a perfectly good steer—but he is going to die right away." His wind is choked off; he has to have wind to live. The man or woman who shuts Jesus Christ out of his life is just as big a fool as he would be if he tied a rope around his neck and shut the air from his lungs.

SAMSON

Samson sowed to the flesh. God made a wonderful covenant with him, and Samson made his promise to God. God was his strength, not himself. God let men like Samson loom up in the Bible just so you may see it was all God. It wasn't Samson. If you get an artist's picture of Samson, the strong man, it will be a man about eight feet tall with big muscles on him, a great big pair of calves and thighs, and a great big knotty back. Listen: There is not a thing in the Book of God to substantiate it. They searched old Samson, they even put detectives on his trail, they tried to trap him in a room where somebody could get the secret out of him. There wasn't a thing about him to show where his strength lay. They all said, "Where does he get it? What is the trick? What is the combination?" They looked at his arms and said, "It isn't there. He is a little man, nothing to him at all. How did he carry off those gates?"

AN EXAMPLE

My friends, God put Samson there as an example to you and me. I don't care how weak you may be to-night, you can take the devil's gates and carry them to the ends of the earth, with Jesus Christ in your heart. The devil can put up a little bit of a perfumed bunch of nothing and take you off after him if you sow to the flesh, but with Jesus Christ in your heart the victory is yours, and you can beat the devil.

Samson's strength was in God and the keeping of his vow. Samson had made his covenant with God; he was a separated man; they all knew he was a Nazarene. His hair was long and had never had a razor on it. "But," they said, "there is

no strength in hair." Certainly there wasn't. Some big dunces in our day grow a lot of long hair and think there is strength in it, but you can grow hair a mile long and you would be as weak as you are now. A bald-headed man has as much chance as Samson had. It wasn't his hair, it was in the fact that he had the covenant with God, and as long as he kept his vow with God, God kept His vow with Samson and his strength never left him until he broke that vow.

TAKE HEED LEST WE FALL

Finally they had him down, in temptation, there in the lap of Delilah—sowing to the flesh. He thought he was somebody. Oh, how the devil gets folks to thinking they are somebody. I tell you, it is a good thing for some of you Christians to have a place to look back to, where God took you out. It will keep you from getting the big head. It is by nothing a man can do—it is simply by trusting Jesus; Jesus does the work, and, praise God, you will reap if Jesus Christ is in your life.

Now Samson is feeding to the flesh—thinking he is somebody. And all the Philistines wanted to know the secret. Samson said, "All I have to do is to just stretch up and go out and kill them; the power of the Lord comes on me and I slay them." "But Samson, where is your strength?" So they finally drive Delilah into it; they say, "You try to help us; you get the secret from him." He is in sin, feeding on the flesh.

Delilah says, "Samson, you tell me about it." Samson lied to her. He said, "I tell you what you do. You get seven little green withes that had never been dried and she bound him. Then shall I be weak and be as another man."

Then the lord of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withes that had never been dried and she bound him with them. Then she said, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" Snap! went the bandages, like strings that had been burnt. So his strength was not yet known.

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Samson kept on lying to her—but all the time he was playing with fire. Think of it! in the lap of a woman, playing with that secret between him and heaven, that vow that was between his father and his mother and himself and God—playing with it, fooling with it. Sowing to the flesh. Sowing wild oats.

Let me tell you, some of you young people: if you made your covenant with Jesus Christ to keep out of the world, God help you; don't flirt with the amusements of your day. Don't say to yourself, "Oh, I can forget it, I can get forgiveness." Oh, the men and the women I know to-night who have been plunged into the depths of despair, who have fooled with God. "God is not mocked"—hear me! You may think you are getting by God, but God runs the world and brings this old earth of ours around on a second of time, and God is longsuffering to us-ward, but God never will be mocked.

Listen to me, some of you young fellows that think you are getting by: God will not be mocked. "As a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

PAYING TO-DAY

You young bucks in here to-night, God pity your poor soul that is on its way to hell, besmirched by sin. God help you to get out of sin. "The man that sows to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption"—get that into your brain. Oh, how I hunger for the souls of some of you young fellows. Praise God, He will heal your body, and heal your soul, and set you going for God as you keep close to Him, and He will keep close to you. Listen: The biggest delusion abroad in the land to-day is this: that you think you won't pay. We are paying to-day in churches for the doubts of preachers. We are paying to-day for the mothers' and the fathers' sins in a generation of amusement-mad young folks in high society, low society, in the young high school life to-day, in the awful conditions of sin among young men and young women. You either let Jesus pay, or you will pay. Oh, if my children had to pay to-night for my sin, I would die—but, praise God,

I plunged beneath the crimson flood, and He has washed me white as snow! You may be washed.

WILL THE HAIR GROW?

Poor old fool Samson—daring to carry that precious secret around in the lap of Delilah. But he paid, and paid hard. Finally she said to him, "You don't love me." How many men have gone to hell over that statement! "If you love me, you would do this, you would do that." If you ever really love you would stand up and praise Jesus, and stick by the Lord. No woman can have a higher love than the love a man gives her when he is true to Jesus. The love of a Christian man, or a Christian woman, who really knows God and has Jesus in his body, is about as fine a thing as you can get on this earth.

Poor old Samson ducked and went down under the pleadings of this woman, and he said: "All right, I will give you the secret. I'll get my hair back some way. I'll take vacation, go down to Hot Springs and stay there a year, and my hair will grow out."

So she gets a pair of scissors and cuts off his hair, and then cries: "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" And Samson says, "What do I care? All I have to do is to shake myself. I'm the same big man." No, sir, now he is the little old weazened Samson; and they come on and bind him like a kitten.

SATAN BINDS

Outside of Jesus Christ the devil can bind any one of you to-night. I don't care what your character is, the devil knows what you want, and he mixes the dish to suit you and lets the aroma come up into your nostrils and the color come into your eye, just to suit you—and he gets you, too. Don't tell me—I have lived too long; I am a kitten nine days old, and I have my eyes open and know some of you; the best thing you can do is to confess your sin and know that outside of Jesus Christ the devil has you traveling straight to corruption and hell.

Samson went down. Look at old Elijah—they tried to hurt him, but he stuck. He got down on his knees and he talked to God, and God talked to him, and when all the prophets of Baal came up against him Elijah could reach his little puny withered hand of a man up into glory and get the fire of God and pull it down on the sacrifice.

MIRACLES

And I believe that is what Elijah did—I believe in the miracles of the Bible, thank God. Do you know why? Because I have had one of the biggest miracles in the world happen right under these ribs. Yes, sir, I know there has been a new fellow put in there—you cannot beat that for a miracle. Jesus has put new life in my heart; and when He can change your life and your heart, bless God, He can certainly handle a hundred worlds. And, oh, when you have been washed by the Blood, then you can pray; then you have a right to come into the presence of God; and you feel it, and the Holy Spirit urges you to come boldly. I say to you to-night, I do not know a man under God's heaven who can pray to God who does not believe in the atoning Blood of Jesus Christ. He cannot do it. He cannot get into God's presence.

"CHRIST DIED FOR THE UNGODLY"

Friends, there is nothing so disgusting to God as this idea in our age of talking about the spark of divinity in a man, saying that sin is only an accident, and that he does not have to get rid of sin to come into God's presence; that God put us into the world, therefore God will put us into heaven. Listen: We are by nature in sin, and God says we are rebels. God has a plan in Jesus Christ; God help you to take Him to-night—just as you are, without one plea.

THE SHERIFF

There was a man in one of our tent meetings—a fellow who was a very wicked man in the town; he had been sheriff in

the county. He came to the services night after night, and I had talked to him once or twice. He said, “Mr. Rader, I have led a pretty good life; I never cheated anybody here.” But I just went on preaching about what Jesus was. I preached a sermon about Nicodemus—tried to show what a good man Nicodemus was, but how Jesus said to Nicodemus when he came to him that dark night, “Except ye be born again, ye cannot see the kingdom of God.” We looked for a closing moment into the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus shed drops of blood, down on His knees with His poor elbows on the rock, crying to God: “Oh, God, if there be any other way, allow this cup to pass from me!” A deathless Christ—a sinless Christ—a spotless Christ—yet He must go into the agonies of death—what for? Oh, man, in God’s name, how dare you stand there and say to God there is another way, to dare walk out of that pew and say you are saved by your own work?

And this poor fellow saw it for the first time in his life. I had not finished my sermon when he pushed back his chair and with the sweat dripping from his brow said: “Mr. Rader, let me come now, let me come now.” He turned around to the little audience, and said: “Oh, folks, if ever there was a sinner, I am a sinner”—and he dropped at the altar, and, lifting his hands to God, said: “I take Jesus as my Saviour—poor lost man that I am.” And his poor, haughty wife there lifted her veil and put it back over her hat and with her handkerchief in her hand and the tears streaming down she put her arms around him and said, “Oh, I am with you, I am with you.”

“He that humbleth himself shall be exalted.” That is the way to come. Do you dare to sow to your flesh—to say to-night, “I will walk out of this tabernacle to make it comfortable for myself. I will not humble myself”? You will reap corruption, for you sow to the flesh. God is speaking to you

to-night, God is calling to you to-night, and if you hear His call and answer back to-night, you will reap everlasting life.

God is calling you to-night—will you come? I have delivered my soul. I have told you the way. Jesus has promised you Himself. I dare you to come. Jesus will make good; if you sow to your flesh and go out to satisfy yourself, you are going into corruption. Oh, take life, to-night!

“PLANTING AND PLANNING”

The text will be a few words found in the third verse of the thirteenth chapter of Matthew:

“Behold a sower went forth to sow.”

God has made man and the earth very close together. It is only lately that man's inventions have lifted him into the air. God made man out of the dust of the ground, and though he builds a sky scraper he still has to go to the soil for his food. God was the first gardener, and He will be the last gardener. His last act will be to take all the weeds out of the garden and let the wheat spring up. Mary supposed Jesus to be the gardener on the morning of the resurrection and what great delight is ours to-day in knowing that He really was. It was all made “for Him and by Him.”

JESUS THE TRUTH

God gave us this parable that we might apprehend what He was talking about when He began to tell us of the sowing of truth in human soil. Jesus said, “I AM THE TRUTH.” Not only what Jesus said was the truth, but Jesus Himself is the Truth, and every outcropping of His life is connected with the Truth; every promise of God has to do with the Truth, and runs back into Jesus.

VINE AND FRUIT

The vine sheds forth the blossom and the blossom brings forth the fruit, but the fruit and the blossom and the leaf and the branch are all connected with the vine. So all the truth is in Christ Jesus, and every promise of God must be amen in Christ Jesus. Every bit of fruit is amen in the vine, and without the vine there is no fruit. Without Jesus Christ there is no promise. Without Him there is no fulfillment of any of the plan of God.

Now in order for God to have His plan, He must plant, and He must plant that which held His plan—Jesus. He wants not to plant a doctrine in your heart, alone, but praise God He comes to plant Jesus Himself that the life of Jesus might bring forth fruit in your heart.

So the sower, He says, goes forth to sow. Here in the human heart is the soil and there in the glory was the Seed. It came to earth in human form to reach the soil, and He throws it and casts it forth into the soil, and if the soil will but open up and take it in, it does the work and brings forth a hundredfold—less or more. Christ gives the picture of the human heart as the soil, where the Truth may be planted, and He says it depends upon the condition of your heart as to whether you will take it up or not. He has sown life in the world, and it depends upon the world whether they will take Jesus or not. The Jews, with stony hearts, not only cast Him out but tried to crush the seed that God wished to sow. They bruised it, and it went into the ground, but praise God it sprung up again and Jesus came forth into life and is now seated in the glory.

SEED AND SOIL

Now God says it takes good soil to produce good crops. There is one thing in the seed; there is another thing in the soil. For a long time the American government experimented with seed out in the Western country. They tried their best to get seed that would live in an arid country, and experimented entirely with seed, seed from other dry places in the world, that could stand the dryness of the western climate. The condition of the soil was considered a secondary matter.

Finally one of these Western fellows, a peculiar sort of a man, a "poor rube" he called himself, while he was in the city one day stuck a piece of loaf sugar in his coffee. He only put the end of it in, but the coffee came up into the loaf of sugar, and he said to himself, "Where is the power that draws the coffee into this sugar? I am holding this loaf of sugar above the coffee. I can put my bucket above the well but the water doesn't jump up into it." And immediately he had an

idea. He said to himself, "Now I know why my land goes dry. It is because there are clods in it that pull up the moisture from the soil, just like this loaf of sugar pulls up the coffee and then the wind gets a chance at it, and fans it out." He put some pulverized sugar in the coffee, and it floated on the top. "Now," he says, "I know what I will do. I will go home and pulverize my land." So he put a drag on it and a harrow on it, and pulverized it, then he planted his seed, and pulverized it again, and found out that when he knocked out the clods and smoothed it down the wind could not get at the moisture to dry it out. The farmers all found it paid to prepare the soil for the seed.

The United States government experiments to find out what the different soils contain. All good soil I understand contains phosphorus, lime, nitrogen and potash, and if any of these elements fall below their proper percentage the soil does not produce the crop as it should. Therefore a system has been adopted to put something into the soil that will yield back the crop. The farmer had taken three crops off his farm and put nothing back, and the result was that it produced less and less crop.

A HEART CHANGE

God knew that the greatest thing heaven had, the best Christ could give, all the truth that heaven could give, could never take root in a human heart unless God changed that heart and praise God, heaven by His own decree demands that a man be born again before he can raise a crop. This idea of thinking that in a poor sinful soil, besmirched by iniquity and led of the devil, somehow a man can raise a holy crop, is an infamous lie. The greatest enemy to a real new birth is churchianity to-day. I mean simply joining some organization. Men do not believe what Jesus taught, namely: a change of heart, a heart change that makes Jesus Master. There are Christian people fighting the reception of the Holy Ghost also; there are Christian men and women who will not entirely break before God—then wonder why they cannot raise a hundredfold crop. God can never raise a crop in your

life until He breaks down the hard places in your life; the clods in the soil must go. Let pride be there, and you will find that it is a clod, swept by a wind that will sap every bit of your spiritual power. You would not talk to the person across the aisle from you in the street car—pride is boss. You would not come to a street meeting—pride is boss. Do you know the truth? Yes, but there is a change that is necessary in your heart before truth and faith will mix, and until God gets the consent of your life that the soil of your life may be pulverized, and yielded in humility before Him, He cannot produce the crop.

GOD'S PULVERIZING PLAN

So God wants to plant, but God's plan, my friend, is the plan of sanctification, when it comes to crop raising. God wants your body to be given to Him a living sacrifice. Friends, I say to you, it is a delightful experience, but all the joys of crop raising cannot come to you until first of all God's plan of pulverizing your heart comes. God must let you go through the rough experience of having no crop, of seeing your efforts come to naught, and when He gets you to that place, you cry out, "Oh Lord, why can't I raise the crop?"—and through some little bit of a thing, just as that farmer found out what was the trouble with his land, God will show you through the reading of His Word, through some crisis, through your very failure, that you need a deep heart work that has never taken place in your life. You need a breaking crisis, an experience before God, that God's power may come upon you and lay you low at His feet, in humility. Undone in your self-sufficiency, then He can trust you with His power and the crop.

STRIKING STUMPS

Jesus says the sower went forth to sow, and when the seed fell into good soil it would bring forth the fruit. You know whether your heart is good soil or not. We know when we run up against the stumps when we are plowing. You know when you strike an awful stump in your disposition and pieces of the harness fly, and "pieces of your mind" are freely

given. No wonder God cannot raise a crop in such a life as that. You know whether the stump, the rock, is there just now, and God Himself wants to prepare that soil. I tell you, it takes a great soul to hold a great vision, and if you will look at men and women who have had visions of God and done the work of God, you will see them point you right back to the place where God pulverized their hearts, brought them down low before Him, and they saw they were not to plead for power, but plead for soil. God gladly gives all the power of the Holy Spirit to a yielded life. He gives the Holy Spirit in His fullness to them that obey Him.

A CUT-UP HEART

God is a wise gardener, God is a wonderful gardener, and He is not foolish enough to think that the soil that is not prepared is going to bring forth the crop. He says to the man that is humble, of a contrite heart—(a cut-up heart), a heart with the harrow gone over it, with the roller gone over it—"to this man will I look"—to a man who is so susceptible to the voice of God that he goes down before God. God can begin to use your life, my brother, my sister, whenever you begin to give your whole life to Him. "The eyes of the Lord go to and fro in the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." But you will find out that when you go into your closet and shut the door and say to Him, "Lord, I came that you might break my spirit," that there is a drawn battle on. There are men and women here this morning who can look back over the past years and see where God tried to break them, but they came right up again—then came another blow—perhaps right now they are in the crisis of a blow. Oh! let Him have His way now. Is God trying to afflict your life? No, He wants only to put the plow in and the harrow in, so that you will say a big "Yes" to Him, and be anything, go anywhere, for Him; yielded and fit for the Master's use; clay in the potter's hand.

Oh, you will find out there is a strong streak of objection in your nature. I used to have a horse for cattle chasing, that every time I wanted to go one way, he wanted to go another.

When I had time to ride that horse, I would ride him. He could stand a hard trip, but the trip was about as hard on me as it was on the horse. It meant a battle every time we came to the cross paths,—about fifteen minutes of bucking and laying on the whip. That horse might turn around and say, “Paul, I am your horse—ain’t I your horse?” Yes, he was my horse, all right, but he wouldn’t mind. I had another little horse that would just wear himself right out going just as I wanted him to go. Which horse would I use when I couldn’t take a chance on any kind of bucking? The answer is easy. That little fellow was skinny all the time, I rode him so much; I was sure of him.

TOO MUCH BUCKING

You will find out in every church there are some folks just ridden to death; God can use them, and He can’t take time to fool with some of you buckers. He does not dare to put you at anything. You are full of nettles, and every time God goes to put you anywhere you have so much objection, so much planning, so much bucking, that He cannot afford to use you. I tell you, friends, God is looking for men and women on whom He can lay a burden without a thousand objections. God help you to get to the place this morning where God can afford to trust you with His plan. God knows whether you are yielded or not. It doesn’t make any difference how many talents you have, or what kind of a person you think you are, God Himself knows whether He can use you, and the proof of your yieldedness is in raising the crop.

RUNNING YOUR OWN LIFE?

Oh, seek God’s plan. The reason your life hasn’t been as it should be is because you have had your own plan. You have seen the why of failure in the sinner, but you don’t see it in yourself as a Christian. You go out and say to the sinner, “My dear brother, you will never be saved by works—you need to be born again.” He could turn right around and say to you as a Christian, “Yes, and you don’t get along any better.” Why? You have your own works. You have

your own plan. You are running your own life. You have the streaks and streaks of objections that have never been yielded.

Here is a mother who wants to talk to her daughter, and she knows that every word she says goes in one ear and out the other. Here is a father who wants to talk to his son, and what he says passes right over him. You go into a foreign country and talk to men and they look at you with blank faces. That is the way God feels, maybe, in your presence. God has the mightiest things in the world to give you, but you cannot get it until you give Him your attention, until you become yielded. A man might preach the holiest kind of calling on earth, lift up the greatest experiences possible for a man to have, but unless there comes the breaking to a congregation, he will find that even the truth becomes a hardener of the soil, it becomes a curse to us unless we hear it with humility and contrite hearts. May God cut our hearts now, until all say to Him, "I must know you, I must have tender ears, I must have seeing eyes, I must have a heart that feels God's voice and minds the least thing He says."

SPIRITUAL INDIGESTION

Now God says He wants to sow the truth in the soil. The reason people have indigestion is not because they are starving, but because they have something in their stomach that won't digest. In the world at large to-day, in America, in places where men and women have heard the Gospel, the great majority of people know what you are talking about when you talk about salvation, but they won't digest it. We were going up in an elevator the other day. I spoke quietly to the elevator boy. He turned around and smiled, and I said, "I see you know what I am talking about."

"Oh yes, sir."

"Did you have a Christian mother?"

"No, sir."

"Did you have a Christian father?"

"No, sir."

"Well, where did you learn about these things?"

"Oh, that stuff is in the air."

I said to him, "If you were dying right now, how would you be saved?"

He replied, "I would call on the name of Jesus Christ."

"You know the truth like that?"

"Oh, I go to a church once in a while."

"And with the truth in your heart you are going on in sin? You are about the worst kind of a sinner on earth."

MIXTURES

There are thousands and thousands like that. They know the truth. The greatest trouble we have to-day is so many learned men know the truth, so many ignorant men know the truth, so many of all sorts of folks know the truth—but they don't mix it with faith in the soil of the heart. God says it must be mixed with faith. The food that goes into the stomach must be mixed with gastric juices, or it will not digest. You must say to Him, I believe you, I take you, you came for me. The soil and the seed must come together in a chemical combination. The seed gives itself up to the soil, the soil gives itself up to the seed, and soil and seed start in together to make a tree, and the chemical combinations mix down there in the roots. Can the little tree take the oil and run little pieces of dirt out to the ends of the branches? No, it mixes with water, and little chemical combinations in the plant, it mixes itself with that fundamental power of life in the plant and thus is made into the tree.

Oh, friends, let there be faith in your heart as the truth comes forth.

You may catch the vision, but here is the thing God wants to hear from you: "Lord, that hundredfold business must be mine. I must produce the crop. Not only other men, but *I* must produce the life. I must have this holy life in Jesus. I must have this life given up to Him. I must have the Holy Spirit." Paul says, "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision." Shipwrecked? What did that matter? His faith was clinging to truth, clinging to Jesus. Does the tree give

up because the northwester swings around? No, its roots only go deeper. If your soul is clinging to Jesus, the very adverse things will be the things that strengthen your hold. You won't kick back at the people that shoot at you—you will take it, and it will only drive you closer to Him. You will cling to Him by faith.

GRABBING BY FAITH

Now God in the first chapter of Genesis shows us His planning and His planting. First of all God rolls the waters back and He gets the soil there. That is what He gets first in you. Afterwards He begins to plant something. He says, "Now let the earth bring forth grass." But remember, my friends, it is the earth bringing forth grass. God doesn't say, "Let the sun bring forth grass. Let the sky bring forth grass." Some of you are saying, "Let God bring *me* an experience." Oh no—God says, Let *you* bring forth. God put the seed there, but you grab it by faith, and the crop springs up. Some folks wait for feeling. You will get all the feeling you can possibly hold if you will trust God and stand on His Word. Where is this thing going to happen—in my head? No head was ever made to have experiences. It is only the roadway; the eyes are a roadway, the ears are a roadway. God says your heart is the soil and Jesus Christ comes into your heart; He will satisfy everything through your brain, and will meet you on every line, but He wants you to take Him in your heart and say Praise God, He is mine!

"LET THERE BE"

Then God comes to man, and says, Let us make man in our own image." Now He says, "I have made the whole plan. You come into My plan." He planted the Garden of Eden, filled it with other creatures, then put in man and woman and said to them, Here is the whole thing. Now just obey Me and everything will be delightful.

What is the great word here in God's account of creation. The great word here is this wonderful word LET. God simply says, "Let"—"let there be light." God didn't create

light that day. You know the earth was cursed and the first view you get of it after those first ten words in the Bible is of a cursed world wrapped up in darkness and in water—wrapped up and hidden away because of the curse that was here before man. God shows us in His account the world first of all as a wrapped-up package, swinging out, without form and void, and darkness upon the face of the deep, as if God had hung crepe on it, to let all the rest of the stars and the universe see it as a dead, cursed thing. Then God says, We will make it a home for man. We will make him a little lower than the angels, give him an emotion, a will power and an intellect, and put him down there. So God begins to make His preparation. Now He says, Let there be light.

ALL PROVIDED FOR

Here is the point I want to give you. Whenever you start out to walk with God, remember that God has made all the provisions ahead of time; everything you will ever need, God has for you in Christ Jesus, and He says to you *LET* Jesus in. God knows the soil of my heart, God knows whether Jesus has conquered this disposition of mine. I don't have to ask any bunch of high-brows what Jesus can do to my soul. I just let Him in, and I will have a testimony. I am getting sick of folks who sit around without an experience, without a testimony. It is a sore trial and I have been before God in nights of prayer, asking that you come to the place where you give yourself up and LET Him do a work in your soul. God wants to show what He will do with Moody Church if we will let Him—let Him—let Him. He knows what He wants us to do in the coming days, but Oh, He wants a people down on their faces before Him, to let God do the thing He is already planning. Somehow our poor little minds seem to think we have to plan. Hallelujah, we don't! God planned this tabernacle, God Himself is running it, and if we will let God keep His hand on it, He will bring us where He wants to bring us.

"WILL YOU BE GOOD?"

Now He says, Let there be a firmament. Praise God, I am so glad for that! God never shuts us up entirely, if we walk with Him. Some part of the sky is open. Sometimes we need it. Old clucking hens need to be shut up, and some of these fellows who are all the time quarrelling with God need to get jailed once in a while, until they say, Yes, Lord, I will be good. Like the mother who shuts the door on her little child, and he cries on the inside. By and by she opens the door and says, "Are you going to be good?" "No, I am going to cry some more." He cries some more, and after a while she comes back. He's ready to say, "Yes, mother, I will be good."

But to the man who minds God, there is a firmament.

"I'm living on the mountain,
Underneath a cloudless sky, praise God!
I'm drinking at the Fountain
That never will run dry—Oh yes,
I'm feasting on the manna, from a bountiful supply,
For I am dwelling in Beulah Land!"

Then He says, "Let the waters gather themselves together in one place."

Oh, my friend, that is a wonderful verse to me spiritually. He said to the old sea, Don't you come up here again. The ground, the dry land, must come forth or the sower could not go forth to sow.

DRY LAND APPEARS

My life was covered with water, but bless God, He said to the sin and the rolling waves of my own passions, the rolling waves of my own personality, my own heart, thank God, He said to them one day: "Go back there, and stay there." And He gave me a place to live in, dry ground. The land came forth that used to be submerged with sin, submerged with doubt, submerged with fear, and God gave the dry land and the waters went back.

I don't know what it means to you, but bless God, it means life to me this morning, that He commanded the waters to gather themselves into one place.

When the children of Israel came from Egypt, led out toward Canaan Land, they had to cross water. If you are going to change your living place spiritually God lets you cross over water. When Abraham came out of his own country, what did he cross?—Over a brook. When the folks came out of the wilderness and went over Jordan, God rolled back the water and let them into a new living place. Who will roll it back? God will. You cannot do it. You cannot force yourself into Canaan Land, you cannot force yourself into sanctification. You will have to let God do it. You will have to get to the place where the sea is behind, the enemy on either hand, and then cry out, "O Lord, I am up against it. I am up against it." Then let God strike the water, and you will go through into a new land. You will cross over that dead thing and leave it behind with its enemies.

WATER AND BLOOD

Oh, I beg you by every art I know of the Holy Ghost, to enter into the victorious life just now with Jesus! Cross over Jordan and get into Canaan Land!

When Jesus died, He shed both water and Blood. What for? To show you that the old death life had been passed through. He moved out of the old flesh country of death, the old sad life of death that had corrupted the world. God let the stream come out of Jesus' side, both water and Blood. The proof of His death was the water. Water does not gush out of a side that isn't dead. He was dead. He had crossed over from death unto life, and the water that came from His side was a proof and whoever plunges across that stream, praise God, has life forever! And the Blood came out to prove that it was life that had passed over the death stream. "The life is in the blood." Across the stream that came from His side whosoever will may cross into a new country and dwell with God. Let Him roll back the waters now. Let the dry land be yielded to Him and then He will let the harvest come on.

“BORDER BATTLES”

I want to talk to you to-night about border battles. The subject came to me as I thought of the Mexican situation—of how a few men down there could run across the border, commit such depredation and murder, and then ride back again. Now they haven't been up here where we live, and won't get up here; we are way back in our own country. But on the border line these things happen. So to-night I am going to talk to you about living on the border, when you could live where God is, in the very heart of His love and life. Why not get clear back into the country of God? In other words, why not have a real heaven-born life and experience?

There are some folks who are having border battles all the time; that murderer, the devil, is always after them. They live too close to the border. There are others who are on one side of the border and perhaps their citizenship is on the other side of the border. They profess to be Christians, but they live in the world. There is going to come a time when Jesus comes back again when we shall know who belongs to Him and who is just professing.

THEN

I want to read a very familiar passage to you, the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew. Let me call your attention to the first word in this chapter: “THEN.”

The kingdom of heaven will not be as God describes it in this chapter, until that hour when the Bridegroom comes. In the thirteenth chapter of Matthew He describes the *NOW* of the kingdom of heaven, from the time that Jesus died until He comes again. *NOW* many can profess and seem all right, and things look big; but in this twenty-fifth chapter He says, “*Then*”—when Jesus comes—folks will be shown up as they really are, for “*Then* shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps and went forth to

meet the bridegroom. Five of them were wise and five were foolish."

Many of you know this chapter, but probably there are some of you here who have never read it. Let us go over it together.

FIVE WISE AND FIVE FOOLISH

"They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them. But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all the virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, *Not so*: lest there be not enough for us and you, but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage; and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore; for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

PROFESSION VS. POSSESSION

Now this is just the kind of a sermon out of God's Word for the time in which we live, for in these days there is much profession of Christianity and very little possession. Talk as you please, my friends, if you were in my place, dealing and talking with people all the time about their experiences, you would find there is very much profession of Christianity and few people with the witness of the Spirit—the oil in their vessel—the assurance that they have been born from above.

It is so easy to profess these days. You do not lose the house over your head; few people ever laugh at you; many clap their hands when you come to Jesus; they pat you on the back, and say, "That's the thing." It is so easy to join churches that church members are numbered by the thousands;

but the people born from above are not numbered by statistics of professors.

LOOKED THE SAME

God wants to show you in this Scripture I have read to-night that this is a picture of our time, and that Jesus is to come suddenly on the scene, and this appearance at once divides between professors and really saved souls. Think of it: these ten virgins go out, all dressed alike; they all have their lamps; they pass along the street and every one says, "They are the people, they are the ones"—you wouldn't notice any difference between them. They all went to the meetings, sang the same songs; they all came to the tabernacle, they all heard the same songs, they all heard the same sermons—they all looked alike, and the people couldn't tell any difference.

I might say to them, "Those who are saved, please raise your hands"—and they would all raise their hands.

But when the bridegroom came, only five of them got in; and five were left out in great agony of spirit. Five were wise and five were foolish.

MAKE SURE

Say, friend: Don't you think it would be the best thing in the world to-night for you to make sure you are saved? We have so much professional Christianity that it would be a splendid thing for you if you would say to yourself, "I am going to *know*, beyond the peradventure of a doubt, that I have passed from death unto life. God can deliver to you the assurance in your soul, and you'll know it. Then, thank God, you will have His life in your heart, and when the Bridegroom comes you will get in.

Think of it, they called Him Lord, Lord, Lord—yes, as you have, some of you; and you have never been saved in your life. You have never had the witness from above; worldly pleasures still are your source of joy. "Lord, open unto us!" But He says: "I know you not. I knocked, and you would not open. You put Me on, you slipped Me on like a cloak. You knew the passwords, you knew the language, you got into

the virgin crowd—the church, but you never let Me in. You never gave up your heart to Me and let Me walk in you. I never knew you.”

REAL EXPERIENCE

Oh God, speak to us to-night! This may be the last time that some souls ever get a chance to buy oil this side of the appearing of Jesus Christ our Lord. The Spirit will speak to you, men and women, warning you, so that you may have a *real* experience in Jesus to-night. Thank God there is a genuine one, and you can have it. “Come buy, without money and without price”—it flows free. But you will have to get your heart open; then you would not be ashamed to come down that aisle with the tears running down your cheeks. Then you will admit your need of Him; your utter lost condition outside of His life and virtue. Oh may God put a hunger upon this congregation to-night for old-fashioned genuine salvation from sin by the power of the Blood of Jesus and the life that is in Him alone.

ONE OF THE TWELVE

Yes, we have these multitudes of folks that look all right. When Jesus was standing in the streets with His disciples, I imagine men could say, “Who is that sagacious looking man there with Him? He must be very close to Jesus, because he is holding the bag; he must be the chiefest disciple. He is a fine looking fellow—see how he snaps his eyes. See how he stands there in bold defiance of the crowd. He doesn’t seem to be so meek as those other poor old fish-smelling fishermen. Pretty nifty, isn’t he? He looks like a banker.”

And he heard them talking about him and kind of smoothed down his clothing and straightened his beard a little bit.

Yes—he looked it—but his name was *Judas*, and he never got in. Judas, in the twelve, but not in the redeemed. “But Mr. Rader, Judas took communion.” Sure; but Judas will be in hell.

Listen to me, my friends. God help me to-night—and I have asked Him all day to help me to help you—to get you out of hypocrisy and the awful, terrible mist that is over the eyes of

professing Christianity to-day; to get you into the place where your heart is changed and you are born from above and you know it. I tell you, there are some of you here from different churches in and out of this city who don't know you are saved. You haven't a testimony. You have no oil in your lamp.

NO TESTIMONY

I remember hearing a group of convention men speak once, when I had with me a young fellow who wasn't a Christian; I brought him there to get help, but there was no help there. He said to me, "Paul, do you call those fellows saved?" I said, "I guess they are, son."

"Well, now," he says, "they talk fine." And then he turned around to me and said something that has been a help to me from that day to this. He said, "Paul, I have been on street corners and listened to men preach, and as they spoke they had a testimony, but not one of those fellows who have talked to-day had a testimony."

"My," I thought, "if a sinner can shoot a bullet like that, what will God shoot when He opens us up?"

"They have no testimony." They could talk about doctrine, they could talk about things, but not once came the flow of their own soul, with their own love for Jesus and what had happened to their own hearts. Not an underflow through their words that would indicate the oil of His presence.

EVEN BEFORE GABRIEL

And if you have a testimony, you could stand before Gabriel and the archangel and the people in Chicago, and say, "Thank God, I have passed from death unto life." God help you to get an experience to-night; have a testimony; tell men and women you are saved. If you cannot truly witness to the fact that you are saved you will have a pretty hard time trying to get into the marriage supper of the Lamb. If there is no flowing oil in your soul to-night burning for Him, how do you expect to meet Him when He comes?

FEAR REMOVED

Are you the kind that is filled with fear of people instead of love for Christ? You care more for what the man or the woman sitting beside you thinks than what Jesus Christ thinks? When I ask you to walk down these aisles you look at people. Jesus isn't your God. You are not cut loose from the devil and the world and people, unto Him. His love, thank God, will cast all that fear out of you. You may tremble in your knees, but your heart will move your lips with love.

Like one fellow who said to me, "The night after I was saved and you called on us to testify, first I trembled in my feet, then I trembled in my tongue, but my heart would get it out, or die." And that fellow had a testimony, too. My Bible tells me if I am ashamed of Him before men, He will be ashamed of me before His Father which is in heaven. And He doesn't lie. May God take fear of men out of your heart to-night, save you and make you a witness for Jesus, with oil in your lamp.

Judas was with the Christian crowd, yes, with the crowd. Oh, the horror of that man's end, the terror of his death, to walk in there and take the thirty pieces of silver, and sell Jesus out; and then go away and commit suicide, when he could have lived forever with the same Christ he sold.

"ALL SLUMBERED"

"While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept."

The devil is up and coming; at it constantly, and his gang are busy night and day, but oh how he loves to get God's children to feel tired. The fellow that used to go to a dance every little while until the morning hours has been saved quite a while now, and if he had to spend a half night in prayer he would feel that at once a golden crown should drop on him.

SING LULLABY

The actors do matinees and every night shows and have to make the crowd laugh, no matter how they feel, and get new

stuff and keep up the pace, but if a preacher tries to beat the devil on an eternally-at-it basis, the devil tries to make him think he'll soon die from his puissant practices, with pulmonary poverty, and immediately begins to sing a lullaby.

FORGET

Or he'll get the folks so taken up with other things that they slumber to the fact that any moment their Lord may come from the glory. Oh he may try to keep people from letting others know anything about what God teaches in His Word of the return of Jesus to catch away His redeemed ones. Then the five wise, saved ones may slumber.

CALLS OF THE WORLD

But the foolish are eased to sleep, about Christ's return, by the pleasures and calls of the world. They're thinking about money, clothes, positions, pleasures, worldly profits and little earth thrones of destruction and thus they slumber.

"A CRY MADE"

"At midnight there was a cry made." There has come a great cry of late. "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh." Those who raised their voices a quarter of a century ago were put into the class with the fanatics. It was foolish to say the Bible taught that Jesus was coming back to this earth to reign. To believe it and teach it meant ecclesiastical ostracism.

NOW POPULAR

Those who taught it then were made to feel the keen blade of separation. But of recent years the teaching, because of the stand of great Bible teachers and great evangelists and writers, has become almost popular. Bible Conferences all over the country have spread the cry far and wide. And this in a day when the cold wing of biblical criticism, and a call for natural religion from the places of canned education was increasing the midnight darkness of unbelief and worldliness.

DESTRUCTIVE CRY

The cry is still going forth: "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him." It is the most destructive cry among the followers of Christ to-day. Millions of pages of literature in the form of papers, magazines and books, concerning the Lord's return are being sent far and wide, edited by godly and scholarly men.

WAKE UP

God intended that this cry should wake men up to their lack of life in Jesus and to the approach of the Lord. He says, "He that hath this hope in him purifieth himself even as He is pure."

"Behold, the Bridegroom cometh." Yes, He will soon be here. Jesus Himself coming back again—my Jesus. Shall I see Him; I, who was a sinner, who but a few years ago refused to speak His name or sing His praise? I, a sinner, shall I see Him? Yes, glory to God, a sinner saved by grace, and I shall behold His matchless face! I have been born again and I may see Him. Oh bless His name.

Brother, if there was hope for me, there is hope for you. I was a hypocrite—oh, how I hate to say it; I was a hypocrite, as hundreds of you are to-night, but praise God I went in for something and I got it. And you may have it. I was a product of the churchanity of our day. Oh, there are so many these days, born of the gasoline and machinery of the church and not of the Blood of Jesus Christ. But thank God, the thing happened in my life, and to-night I am born from above. Oh, let the cry come to you to-night, and you come to Him while the cry rings out; there is oil now.

GIVE US OF YOUR OIL

And they cried: "Give us of your oil." "No—I wish I could." I wish I could go down every aisle and up and down the benches and just give you the oil that is in my heart; but I cannot. You will have to come to Christ and get it for yourself and there is a chance to-night to get it.

A young girl went down to one of the Southern colleges. She had the prettiest of auburn hair, and she could sit down at a canvass with her paints and brushes and sketch anything—so easily. She would sit in school and draw pictures of the girls. They said to her, "How did you get it, that auburn hair of yours?"

And she would tell them one thing and another—what she washed it with to give it the color. Then they asked her how she did these sketches, these pictures—and she said she practiced for hours. She had been drawing since she had on little short dresses. She tried to tell them they could do it if they worked.

So one day the mother came to the school to visit her daughter. When she got off the train, here was the same auburn hair. They looked at Dora, and said, "Now we know where you got it." The mother sat in the room with her pencil, while three of the girls were singing, a little extemporaneous trio, and when the next paper came out here was a little cartoon of these three, a perfect picture of them that Dora's mother drew. And the girls said again, "Now we know where you got it; she passed it along to you."

JOIN CHURCHES

Oh, you cannot get this oil by works; it must come from Jesus. It is a personal matter between you and Him. You must be born of Him. Joining societies, churches, cannot do it. We ask you to join churches, when? When you have the oil, when you have been saved. Get saved first—and then afterwards join, if you want to. And you ought to, if you have been saved; and if you have been saved you will want to. Why? Paul says, "I know I have passed from death unto life, because I love the brethren." And the person who has been born again will "love the brethren" and you cannot keep him out of the church. He will say, "Where can I stick closer to folks like those who have been saved?" He wants to join in with new creatures in Christ Jesus, like himself.

THE DOOR WAS SHUT

Now comes the awful statement of Jesus (for Jesus gave out this parable Himself to His disciples). He says, "And the door was shut." Friends, I think that is a most awful statement: "And the door was shut"—was shut. There is another statement that is terrible to me, and something like it, in the Bible, and that is: "Judas went out and it was night." Sitting at the table with Jesus, he dips in the sop, then he goes out to betray Him, and "it was night"—night—night. "And the door was shut." Five people on the outside, knocking, "Lord, Lord, Lord," and it was shut.

Friend, there comes a time when all your efforts are as nothing. God has invited you to open your heart, and you laugh and shut it up and walk out of the tabernacle. He says there will come a time when you will knock, and it will be too late. Judas had a chance to have Jesus, but the time came when he went and hanged himself, and down in hell he will walk around and say to men, "Say, did you see the thirty pieces of silver?" And he will sit there counting them—one, two, three, four, five, six. The men will look over his shoulder, and say, "What are you doing?"

"I am counting my money, that is what I am doing. Who are you?"

"I am the rich young ruler."

"You down here, too?"

"Yes. You are only counting thirty. I had millions to count."

"Well, go on and count them."

Oh, forever counting money. "What is it worth, Judas?" "Nothing—but we will have to count it forever." "Did you have a chance to get the life of Jesus?" "Yes." "Did you take Him?" "No." "What did you take?" "Money—money."

"DANCES—DANCES"

Young girl, forever you will count off your dances, dances, dances, dances—hell and dances. Your card parties—your little movies—your little shows. You know you refuse Jesus

because you love the world—these things are your world. Forever—oh, they will get stale, but forever you will count them off—forever.

And Pilate will walk up through the crowd and say, "I want a little water—have you got a little water?"

"What do you want it for, Pilate?"

"I want to wash my hands—to wash my hands of the whole matter."

And you will say, "Oh, I want a chance in one of those benches again. I had a chance in the tabernacle one night to take the Son of God in my heart, but I said 'I guess I will get along all right. I want to live with a bunch of live ones, full of the pep of sin. I'm going out to live my own life.'"

My God, wake you up to-night. Jesus of Nazareth passeth by, and can save you if you will let Him. But remember: "The door was shut." Don't wait.

LITTLE DAVIE

Little Davie, a young traveling man of the west, married little Kathreen the year I left a certain town. When I came back there they said to me, "Do you remember little Davie?"

"Sure," I said.

They said, "Go up to the insane asylum and see him."

"What, the insane asylum? Where is Kathreen?"

"Oh, she is dead."

"Tell me about her."

Why, Davie went off one day on one of his regular trips, to be gone two weeks. He had never told Kathreen he drank. That was all on the side. He never told Kathreen he was a sport. That was all on the side. His mother never knew he was a sport. That was all on the side. They telegraphed him at his scheduled hotel and town, but they couldn't find him. For many days they hunted for him. Finally he came back for a change of clothes at the hotel where he had first stopped, and he read the telegrams that were waiting there for him: "She is dead. She is buried. We couldn't find you."

He went back to the city and ran up to the little house he had furnished for her, and he yelled outside the door—but nobody came. One of the neighbors jumped across the fence, and called, "Hello, Davie."

He says, "What is the matter? Where is she?"

"We have had the funeral, and she is gone."

"She is *gone*—I never saw her!"

"She is gone, Davie. We telegraphed to you, but you were drunk."

"My God!" He ran down yelling at the top of his voice, to his mother's place, and she looked at him and said, "Davie, she is gone."

He started up and down the town, crying, "She can't be gone, she can't be gone." Yes—but she is gone. "She can't be dead." Yes—but she is dead.

He was too late. She went while Davie was drunk.

Oh, some of you say, "I will get by." Won't you listen to me to-night, and come to Jesus now, while you may? The door is going to be shut, is going to be shut as it was for Davie. Too late! "*THEN* shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto the condition I am talking about. *Then*. But you know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of man cometh."

A SAN FRANCISCO MAN

When Mr. McKee and I were at the tabernacle in San Francisco, there was a man with a little black moustache who sat near to the front with his wife and daughter. I noticed him smile at them, every time we would talk about something real, of salvation; the joy would come in his face. One day I was walking along and met him, and he said, "I don't know whether you noticed me or not; I sit there near you, Mr. Rader. I want to tell you about my case."

He said, "Before the earthquake, my wife and my daughter used to go over to Oakland and visit some little meetings over there. They learned about real salvation," he says, "and I tell you, they got it. They brought it into the home. I am a chef in one of the cafes down here, and was raised in the

old country. Church was good enough for me. I said, 'I'll take my little show, my little smoke, my little drink when I want it, my own way.' I had been confirmed, and could recite the catechism in three languages; my father had a parish in the old country, and I was proud of my church connection."

REAL OIL

"But oh," he said, "my wife got something real. She had something real or she never could have stood all the stuff I threw at her. Then," he says, "she came back and told me Jesus was coming again; how He was going to come down and catch up His own and the rest of them would be left, and there would be such great tribulation. I tried to throw it off, but I couldn't get it off me. I would rattle the dishes while I was cooking, and try to sing some old songs and make all the noise I could, but I couldn't get away from the fact that there was something that I didn't have, that somehow I ought to have a connection with God I didn't have. I knew my wife had it.

"One day—I had never done such a thing in my life before—I slapped her. The daughter made a sweet mild protest, and I slapped her. Then I went down town and it was worse still. I couldn't cook, until I had called my wife up on the telephone and said, 'You'll have to forgive me.' And she said, 'It's all right.' She had something and I knew she had something.

"So the days went on. They had a great banquet on one day, and I was sleeping that night down in the hotel, as I often did. You know how the quake came on," he says. "I was asleep in a folding bed, and the only thing I could remember was the head of that bed coming for me, and the next thing I knew it hit me. When I woke up I began to push my way out of that bed. I climbed on the floor, and part of the building was gone. If I had taken another step I would have dropped down many floors. I looked out over the city and the smoke was rolling over the whole affair."

GOD'S WORD A SWORD

He says, "Rader, I can never tell you how the truth of God's Word came to me. My wife had read to me the story of the five wise and the five foolish virgins; how some were taken and the others didn't get in, and," he said, "I thought I was left behind. But I said, 'Lord, as long as there is life in me, I will seek you.' And I started to seek Him. Men yelled for me to try to come down. I didn't care whether I came down or not. I was going to settle the question of eternity with God. I pleaded with God. I hunted around to see if my wife by chance had left a Testament in my pocket.

"Finally the men got hold of me. They thought I was crazy because I was praying and calling for God, and they locked me up. But days after they let my little wife come to me. And she led me to Jesus. In a few minutes," he said, "I was as calm as a baby in a mother's arms, and I said, 'My God, I'm saved, I'm saved! Something is real.'" He said, "I went after oil, and I got it!"

"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE"—JESUS

Friend, whenever you seek Jesus you will get Him. He says, "*In the day that ye seek Me with all your heart, ye shall surely find Me.*" The door will be shut some day—it is open now—will you step in while you can? Man, woman, in God's name let me help you to Jesus now. Do not be satisfied with a profession, with lamps, robes and songs, but have a new life given by Jesus Christ: The oil; His Spirit a burning witness within you.

Which shall it be: Wise or foolish? Profession or real possession? Come! Decide before the door is shut. Buy oil now, without money and without price. Cross over the border and have your citizenship in heaven and your life in Jesus.

OUT OF THE CAVE

"I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and He gave ear unto me * * * *," Ps. 77.

This Psalm tells the story of David and how he got out of the cave. As Professor James G. Murphy of Belfast says in his commentary, "The Psalm was most probably composed on some critical emergency in the eventful life of David. The hiding of David in the cave of Adullam has been suggested by different writers."

It is the devil's peculiar joy to get us into a hole, and it is God's particular delight to get us out of it. The man or the woman who has learned how to get hold of God and get out of a hole, out of a predicament, out of a dark place, has found the greatest joy in the world, for this reason: he has found reality in God. This is the greatest joy in the world, to lay hold on a promise of God and feel the pull of God on the other end that lifts you out. Oh, it is delightful.

A DELIGHTFUL SENSATION

A group of men were standing around and talking about a "delightful sensation," and a man from the coal mines said to them: "You fellows don't know what a delightful sensation is."

He said, "I was in a coal mine when there was an explosion and a cave-in and I was left alone in a large cavern. I reached around for anything that I could get with which to make a signal. I was in a room where there was no pipe, so I couldn't tap the pipe. There was quite a bit of air in the room, and I groped around probably for twelve hours trying to get hold of something, but I couldn't find a thing.

"Finally," he said, "there slipped into my hand a wire, and all of a sudden it dawned upon me that this wire ran into the elevator shaft. I began to pull the wire—and then the awfulest feeling in the world came over me, because when I pulled, the wire came my way. I thought the men might be at

rescue work in the shaft, but when the wire came my way I utterly lost hope. I just laid down and cried. I was discouraged, I was worn out.

ALWAYS PULL AGAIN

"Something within me made me pull at the wire again, and when I pulled it again, some one at the other end just pulled it out of my hands. They didn't hear me yell up there, but I want to tell you I yelled, feet and head and body and everything else, I yelled. I pulled again—they pulled back. I tell you it was just a joy to pull and pull and feel them at the other end. They knew where I was, just by the wire, and before long they had a hole through the excavation, and I was out; in my wife's arms, and my children climbing all over me."

Friend, there is no joy like the joy of laying hold of God's promise and feel God tug at the other end. God wants to get us out of the holes and caves of life, and the devil wants to get us in.

DAVID CHOSEN OF GOD

God had picked David out, wonderfully anointed him, and told him what his life work was to be; now he found himself pursued, haunted, hunted by his great enemy, Saul, chased into a cave. The old cave life was hard on David. He could picture his enemy on the throne and it made the cave even worse. He cried out despondently: "I am sick of this old cave; I am sick of myself; I'm sick of the crowd that's with me."

Poor troubled fellow, with his hair knotted up, his clothes dirty, needing a bath and something to eat; sick of this old cave. He was so sick of it that the cave got on the inside of him. There are times when you can throw off your circumstances, and these times are always if they are only on you; but if you allow them to get in you they will throw you down. The trouble was not only that David was in the cave, but the cave was in him.

It is not an awful thing to be in the world, but when the world is in you, then real trouble starts. A ship may sail well and be in the water, but oh the trouble when the water comes into the ship!

HAS GOD FORGOTTEN?

The cave pressed upon David until he began to feel God had gone clear back on him. "Has He forgotten to be merciful? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies?" he cries out in anguish.

"Did you ever have any experiences with the Lord, David?"

"Yes, but I don't believe I will ever have them again; I don't believe there is any hope. Life's so small in the cave. God seems far away."

And David started out to be despondent and discouraged, as so many Christians are these days. I find so many folks who are oppressed of the devil; the devil seems to get his hands on them and wears them out and oppresses them; tries to get circumstances to get inside of their souls, and let prayer stop and faith leak out, and their tongues begin to talk of circumstances instead of God and His rich promises.

IN SPIE OF CIRCUMSTANCES

And God says, "I want to teach you how to trust Me in spite of circumstances and in spite of disappointment, and in spite of the things 'round about you. He had to teach David that, or David would never have been able to shout in the Psalms as he did. David shouts later because he has something to shout about; he has a glad song in his heart later because he has gone through something with God.

A SPLENDID WARNING

So in this seventy-seventh Psalm David starts out with a warning; shows us what a mistake he made. He says, "I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed."

If you commence to complain when you get in a hard place, you are patting the devil on the back. The minute you begin to murmur against God, you jump clear over onto the

devil's side and boost his game. The minute you begin to say, "Other people have it pretty good, but I haven't," you are right over where the devil can fill you with purple ink; you will be overwhelmed; there won't be a thing you can get hold of; you will be absolutely despondent.

BECAUSE

Why? Because the minute a man begins to complain against a God who is for him, begins to complain about a God who loves him so much that he sent Jesus Christ into the world to die for him and beat the devil and save him in spite of the fact that he was a rebel and an alien from God, is manufacturing clouds to shut out the sun. This loving God is willing to lift him up and give him a place as the very Bride of Christ, and if he complains against Him there is no more light in the world. The saddest mistake a man or woman can make is to complain against God when they get into trouble—to say, "God has forsaken me!"

CHANGE YOUR CRY

Change your cry. Say, "My, but it is dark, but by God's grace I will reach my puny hand up through the clouds and touch the hand of Jesus, for His hand is stretched out to me. Say, "If God be for me, who can be against me?" When you believe it, you are taking sides against the devil with God; and the man who will say, "I know God is true, whether every man is a liar and everything has gone to pieces, I know God is faithful"; and whether you feel it or not, it will not be long before you feel a tug at the other end of the rope and the first thing you know you will be above the clouds and sailing out. David found the truth and by the Holy Ghost sent it down for our help. So let us not make the mistake.

Remember, he says: "I complained and my spirit was overwhelmed." Will you take the first step and stop your complaining?

FIRST GET A FOOTHOLD

Take men to-day who are philosophizing, writing books against God; they have no foothold; forever they seek one.

You will find they are like a heavily burdened traveler on a mountain trail that is slippery and frozen; their very doubt and complaint freezes the pathways, there is no place for their feet. When you complain against the best Friend, the tender, merciful God, the Ruler of the universe, there isn't a place in the world for you to put your foot.

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him," Heb. 11:6.

BE STILL

Learn to keep still, to keep your mouth shut. God Himself lets the clouds blow around, but the clouds will even blow over after a while if you will just learn to keep still. God says the man that waits on the Lord "shall exchange his strength." I have prayed many a time when it seemed that the clouds were so thick you couldn't pray through them, but you can do as some of you may have done if you were ever lost in a dust storm, a sand storm on the prairie: duck your head and hold on until the wind doesn't blow so hard.

Oh how God has again and again in His Word called our attention to His great ability to fight for us, if we but learn how to take our hands off and trust and be still—not "watchful waiting," but an active trust in stillness. Hear His reassuring words in Second Chronicles 20:17:

"Ye shall not need to fight in this battle; set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem; fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord will be with you."

OUR TONGUES

So much of our trouble comes because of our tongues; we make so many statements against God. We complain of circumstances, we talk about people so that it takes months after we get right to straighten up all we said before. When we get into trouble it seems to be part of the plan of humanity to spread it around, go and load it on somebody else. We go to people; we try to lay our burdens somewhere else instead

of waiting before God. God says the man that waits on Him "shall mount up on wings as eagles." And thank God, it is true. Wait on God, and God will show Himself.

DAVID'S FIRST STEP UP

David saw his mistake of complaining, and as soon as he saw it he began to talk in a different kind of language. "I have considered the days of old." He leaves his feelings and runs back, oh away back as far as he can, to facts, facts.

Friend, that is a mighty good thing to do, to go back as far as you can go back with God in your memory or knowledge, and then just let God trail you along, showing you facts.

GRANDFATHER'S EXPERIENCE

I remember my grandfather, when I was a boy, asking me to sit down and sing to him:

"I saw a wayworn traveler,
In tattered garments clad,
And struggling up the mountain,
It seemed that he was sad."

He made me sing all the verses in his little old hymn book, a little old square affair, well used; grandmother had put five different covers of calico on the back of it. He'd sit back all ready and say, "Sing it, son." I loved the chorus part, then: "Palms of victory, crowns of glory," but I remember he loved a certain verse best:

"Then casting his eyes backward
O'er the path which he had trod,
He shouted loud Hosannas
And praises unto God."

I remember as I sang that part I saw the tears running out of his big blue eyes, and he clapped his hands together, and said, "Glory to God! Glory to God! I never will forget it. And then he said to me this: "Some day, when you are older, you will get to a place where it seems like God has forsaken you, but son, if you ever do, just sit still a minute and look to the time when God first touched your life. It may be

slippery then, but you will shout as you look back." There he was, in the last years of his life, but he could look back and see all the way God had led him, and shout.

So David says, "I began to get out of the hole that way. I began to look back to the old days, look back way down there where God called me, and then my soul began to be encouraged. And I said, 'This is my infirmity'"—in other words, "I am a fool." It's a nice thing, you know, to call a head that won't work right "infirm," but it is a better thing to call it a fool.

"Lord, I am a fool, sitting here complaining against the very God who has been working for me all my life; I am a fool. Lord, my curls are all matted, my poor old clothes are all twisted, I am sick of the old cave, but Lord, it is my infirmity and my foolishness."

DAVID'S SECOND STEP

Now David takes another upward step: "I will remember the years of the right hand of the Most High."

"What do you mean, David?"

"Why," he says, "I will remember the times in my life when I felt God's hand, that hand of strength, that grip in my life. I will go back and remember those times."

"All right, David, start ahead. Let's see you do it."

"Oh," he says, "I am standing here, Lord, an older man now, but I remember the day when a man walked into the field while I was herding sheep as a little boy, and somebody cried out 'David!' Just the way they called it," he said, "my heart turned over; I had been talking with God. 'David!' they cried, and I got up from the ground and said, 'What do you want?'"

"There is a man here, Samuel, come to your father's house to look all the boys over, and he wants to look you over."

"I fixed my little red head the best I could, and went to the house and there were all the boys lined up. There was my big brother at the head, and he said, 'What in the world do you want with that little scrap? What in the world do you want him for?'"

"I remember Samuel, a godly man, turned to me and said: 'The Lord says: "Arise, anoint him, for this is he "''; and there, while the boys were looking, he took oil and poured it on my head and anointed me, and the Spirit of God was upon me, from that day."

GET A FRESH START

Oh, friends, go back to the time when God pulled you away from the crowd and separated you unto Himself: the days "of the right hand of the Most High."

David said, "I will go back to that time of the right hand of God, when Samuel came to our house—came out, anointed me king. I may be on the outside this afternoon, hiding in this old cave, hunted by Saul and persecuted by the devil, but thank God, Samuel anointed me as king, and whether I feel like it or not, I am going to be a king!"

Friend, when Jesus has saved you, and you are discouraged, say: "Whether I feel like it or not, though I may feel down and discouraged, Jesus saved me one day, and I am the child of a King, and I am going to glory, thank God! My poor body may not feel like it, but bless God, one of these days through the open portals of heaven I will sweep in and sit down with Jesus Christ at the marriage supper of the Lamb. Glory to God!"

Friend, you will soon get out of the cave. You will have a shout after a while. Your very skin will begin to change. Your bones will begin to wax well again.

A REAL LION

Then David said: "That isn't all, old devil; take some more. Listen: I remember a few days after that, being with my sheep, and a lion came along; and I was a poor little frail fellow, but it was my business to take care of those sheep. And when that lion came along, God just stirred me on the inside and said 'David, grab him.'

"But Lord, I am such a little fellow."

"Grab him!"

And something gave me nerve enough to grab the lion and I broke his jaw. I don't know how I did it, but something came into me that day, and I slew the lion."

A REAL BEAR

"And I remember the day the bear came up, and I slew him the same way, and my, I was scared when I saw him there dead. But I looked up, and said, 'God, you did it.' Yes, sir, I am going to remember the days of old. I may have old matted hair now, and Saul on the throne, but God is going to make good some day; He didn't bring me all this way for nothing."

A REAL GIANT

And then he said, "Yes, I remember something else, old devil; that day I went down to the army, to carry some food to my brothers, and they were looking for somebody to kill that old giant. I went up to Saul, and he says, 'What do you want to go out and fight that giant for?' I felt it again—that same spirit just boiling in me.

"Saul said to me: 'Have you got any medals?'

"Sure, I have."

"How do you know you can kill him?'

"I have killed my lion and my bear, and sure as you live, I can kill that old giant. 'The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine,'" I Sam. 17:37.

NO ARMOUR

"And Saul says, 'You better put my armour on you,' and he tried to put his armour on me, but I threw it off, and took God, and my little sling, and threw it around my head, and I said, 'I may miss, but God can't miss—let her go!' Round my head it went, and it wiggled around, but God took hold of it and shot it straight at the giant, hitting him square between the eyes."

"I came back with his old head dangling, and said to Saul: 'Here I am.'

"And Saul says, 'Who are you, you poor little fellow?'

"'I am the son of Jesse; that's all I am,' I answered."

It didn't take David long to show the first essential of a servant of God. It took just one thought, and he took the lowest place: just "the son of Jesse."

"I am the son of Jesse." Yes, David had real humility in him. Slew a giant by the power of God, then walked up in front of the king, the great giant's head dangling from his hand, the whole army in consternation and admiration and envy, but David asks for no praise. Most of us would have thrown out our chests and said "Who am I? I'm the fellow who just killed that giant!" But no, David says: "I am the son of Jesse—just a little fellow that came from the sheep."

Praise God for the power of God, but bless God for the humility that comes of God and gives God the glory for the whole business.

SEE HOW GOD FREED YOU

David said: "I will remember the right hand of God." David is getting out of the cave, as sure as you live. And you will get out of the cave if you go back there and see how God freed you, gave you power over a habit that used to get you down. Oh, when I think of it to-day, I could go through the skylight shouting the praises of God for deliverance from the hand of the lion and the bear that used to live in my old breast. You may make fun of preaching a life of victory, but I'll have to shout the praises of Jesus Christ who has delivered me from the lion and the bear that lived in this breast.

DAVID'S THIRD STEP

In the next place, David said: "I will remember the works of the Lord; surely I will remember Thy wonders of old."

So he goes back and recalls the time when God took Abraham, and said to him: "Abraham, come across the brook, walk through the length and the breadth of this land and I'll give you all you can see, forever." He recalls the time God brought Isaac into the world, miraculously, and he recalls the time when God promised Abraham his children, when he did

not even have a son, and then told him they should be like the sands of the sea for number, and should come out of Egypt after they had been in bondage. He recalls the works of Moses, the plagues of Egypt, and sees Moses stand and stretch out his hand over the sea, and speak in the name of God—and the waters divided themselves and the very people of God from whom David himself had crossed the Red Sea and come into Canaan Land. He could take the dirt from beneath his feet and say: "Here I am, hiding in the very land God has given to my father."

A HOLY HUSH

Surely there must have come over him the hush of the Holy Ghost, and the shoes began to come off his feet, and he got down and began to praise God. "The very dirt I am on belongs to God," he must have cried out. "It has been purchased by the power of God. The very cave I have been in is the sanctuary of God. This is Canaan Land where I am. Saul may be on the throne now, but David shall be on the throne. Out of David shall come the very Christ of God and sit on the throne of the whole world—forever!"

SEES A COMING KING

David not only began to look at Canaan Land, but he began to lift his eyes up to God, and maybe it was in this dark hour that God spoke to him of the mighty things to come, when the Messiah, Jesus Christ, would sit on his throne, as Peter says in his sermon at Pentecost:

"Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulcher is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne," Acts 2:29, 30.

Out of the cave—oh, he got a vision of the coming of Jesus-Christ into this world as King of kings and Lord of lords, and praise God, the old cave became a palace—"and prisons

will palaces prove, if Jesus will dwell with me there." God came down to meet him in the cave—in the cave—and he believed himself in truth a king, every inch a king, a son of God and the one through whom Jesus was to come, himself the possessor of the throne which Jesus Christ should come and reign forever.

And he lifted up his hands to God and began to praise God: "Why, Lord, you led Moses and Aaron, you took them and led the children forth as a shepherd would lead his sheep, and I am safe, I am perfectly safe. God has His plan made, and I shall not fail. All that He has promised He will do."

He began to pull at his old garments, straighten them out, and the men began to say, "David, what's the matter?"

"You needn't worry about me any longer," cries David. "I don't care if I am dirty. Glory to God, I am a king."

THE CAVE CROWD

And the poor old bunch that David had gathered around him began to kneel and swear their allegiance to him.

"And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them; and there were with him about four hundred men," I Sam. 22:2.

He turns to this peculiar crowd and says, "You're a dirty looking crowd now, you look like has-beens now, but wait until I am a king. We are a bunch of forlorn and forsaken looking folks now, but God is going to take me out of this cave and put me on the throne, and I will remember all of you when I come in."

Yes, and he did what he promised to do: made them generals and rulers of the land; and when Jesus comes to sit on David's throne He will do the very same thing. Men who were drunks, women who were harlots, despised and rejected ones, down-and-out, who has been cleansed in His Blood, will rule and reign with Him. Hallelujah!

Oh, friends, get out of the cave this morning! Jesus is coming back, and when He does the crowd that is being made

fun of here, the poor of the earth, the despised, the rejected, the turned-aside, will come into their full inheritance. Jesus says, "Keep faithful, and never forget that I am King of kings and Lord of lords." Yes, He is coming back again. Many think of Jesus now just as the lowly One of Nazareth. He is only a man to the world; but to us—oh, beloved, we, as Paul says, are "looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

It may look dark, war is all around you, the cave and the darkness, but keep faithful. Caves and all they mean will soon be a thing of the past. By Thy grace we will wait for Thee. O King of kings, from glory this morning! Friends, He is coming soon, glory to God, and we will be caught up to meet Him, and later come back to this old earth to reign with Him.

"Though the cave has held you captive,
Jesus still is near,
He is true to every promise,
Cheer, my comrades, cheer.
Hold the fort, for I am coming,
Jesus signals still,
Wave the answer back to heaven,
By Thy grace we will!"



KINGDOM RECRUITING

"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE"

These words fall from the lips of Jesus again and again: "The kingdom of heaven is like"—and are recorded for us in the thirteenth chapter of Matthew. Picture Him standing there in the little boat as it rocks quietly in the water, and before Him crowded right up to the water's edge a great multitude, listening intently to every sentence from His lips.

"The kingdom of heaven." These are surprising words. Is there then to be a kingdom heaven born, heaven bought, and heaven sent? That is exactly what Jesus is saying, and furthermore He is showing by speaking to them in parables just how it is to come.

LIKE BREAKING WAVES

His words roll to them like tremendous breakers along the coast in a storm. Six times these words break on their ears—"The kingdom of heaven is like"—and each time accompanying the words comes a parable to explain the kingdom to those who have ears to hear. As the great waves on the beach break suddenly and then burst into foam and run up the sands, so this phrase "The kingdom of heaven is like" would break and then would foam forth the explaining parable. With each breaking wave the kingdom program becomes clearer.

THE PROGRAM OF MAN

These waves are beating too against a stubborn world program of man. In the breast of the men before him is a program of the earth earthy, of the flesh fleshly, and of the devil devilish. There is there before Him in living, breathing men a kingdom of this world and He has come to start a kingdom of heaven. He is finally, when He has gotten His subjects, to come back to this world and set up His kingdom with all authority and power.

HIS KINGDOM HERE

Yes! Hear me if you will. He will set up His kingdom right here in this world; right here where the Garden of Eden grew; right here where the devil tempted Adam and Eve and they fell; right here where the curse came, where Adam walked out of the Garden and because of sin started to work and earn his bread by the sweat of his brow; right here where Eve because of sin brought forth her first-born in pain and anguish; right here where because of the fall sin entered and the devil became the prince of this world, and Cain killed his brother Abel and went out from the presence of God marked with the sickening mark of a murderer. Yes, He will set up His kingdom right here where passion has reeked its awful toll of infamy, here where hearts have been broken, where man has fought his brother, cheated his brother, lied about his brother, robbed his brother, where he has hated, envied, coveted, blasphemed God, laughed at His laws, poopooed His miracles, even denied His very existence, and tried to tear His blessed Book, the Bible, to pieces, and tried to choke the faith of babes and clog the minds of the young that would seek after Him. Yes, praise God, Christ is to set up His kingdom here where His rich holy Blood flowed from His side, here where He suffered, here where He rose again. Yes, it is here where the nations are warring for supremacy that He will take His throne and reign in righteousness.

RECRUITING

This great stupendous event is in the future, and may be very, very close, but the part of the program now being carried out before the kingdom shall be ushered in is *the recruiting of subjects*. The Gospel is the good news, telling how whosoever will can become a subject of this kingdom.

MAN'S BELIEF

The belief of the kingdom of this world presided over by the devil is that man in and of himself is abundantly sufficient, that his brain, his brawn, his wonder-working ingenuity,

his will, can guide him safely through all the waves that roll against him, and men speak of this as the first law of nature, the great law of self-preservation. The outcome of all this is what they love to call natural religion, and of course in this religion man and man alone is the god. There, so-called culture and learning have led them away from idols of wood and stone, neither do they call the wind, the sun, or the moon by names to indicate them as gods, but they deify the reason of man. They worship the works of his hands in invention and art, in science and industry. They are pleased to refer to this as their second law of nature, which is the law of self-expression.

THE LAST LAW OF NATURE

There is only one law of nature left and this they do not care to talk of, for it is an awful nightmare. This is the law of self-mastery. Oh, hide your face now. Stop your ears. Close your eyes, and try not to think. The shock will be awful if you are a devotee of the god called man. He has lost all control over himself and must yield all his houses, all his land, all his power, all his pomp, all his hopes, all his plans, all his loves and labors to a strong enemy called death. He may drink of the best concoctions of his genius, he may hold with all his might, with his wonderful will, to life, but death will take him. Man is not master of himself.

LIFE AND A KINGDOM

Jesus came to this world and from this little boat throws out the great life-giving promises of His kingdom. He had no subjects for His kingdom when He opened His eyes in that little manger cradle, for all men are the subjects of sin and death. There is not a one that is not a born and willing subject of the kingdom over which the devil is ruling; not a one who is not under the dominion of sin.

Hear what God has to say about this statement: "By one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

Again hear God's Word: "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags, and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities like the wind have taken us away." And still again God says: "We all like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." We see then that Jesus started without a subject and if He was to have subjects He must get them from the ranks of the devil, who in league with human nature and as prince of the world sits in the place of world power, and by his power of temptation holds the hearts of men captives to sin, the world, their flesh and himself.

HE MUST CREATE HIS SUBJECTS

Jesus then before He can have a kingdom must have subjects, and before He can have subjects He must set them free from their old leader and master and make them new creatures. This is the first task to which He directs Himself when John has baptized Him in Jordan, and God has baptized Him with the Holy Ghost. He goes immediately into the wilderness, and there after fasting until His flesh, in almost death, calls, cries for food, He meets the devil.

The battle is on. The devil offers all he has, even to the kingdom of this world lying in his power, if Christ will but fall down and worship him. All the devil's temptations and pleadings are in vain. Christ will have nothing to do with him. The battle is over. Christ is true to His Father and does His will.

CHRIST IS VICTOR

Christ returns to announce that He is the victor, as the Scriptures had prophesied He would be. Now He is ready to announce His program as God had written it down in His Word, and arises in a little church the first Sunday and reads out of the Bible thus about Himself: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor, He hath sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering

of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. * * And He closed the Book and sat down * * and He began to say unto them, This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears."

He has conquered the devil then. He is to be the Deliverer. The prince of this world before whom every other living soul has had to bow and become a sinner has found One now who will have nothing to do with him. He is an active victor, going on to offer help to any that are bound by satan, and are his subjects.

TO DESTROY THE DEVIL'S WORK

Jesus Christ stands there talking to the multitude from the little boat then as the conqueror of the devil. The Scriptures go farther and say that He was "manifested to destroy the works of the devil." So this, then, is the first battle Jesus Christ had entered on His campaign of conquering and before He finishes He is to destroy the works even of the devil: the very results of sin? Yes! The devil then I recognize as my enemy, but he has been defeated by Jesus Christ who comes lifting His victorious banner, asking all who would be free from sin to enlist, and become His subjects in this new kingdom He is to bring in when He has gotten all His subjects from all lands.

JESUS OFFERS JOY

The world with all its allurements and charms for sin, its amusements that take hold on hell, its fascinations that exalt man and the devil and forget God, all this, which is the world, is my enemy. It was all offered to Jesus but He turned it down flat. He has conquered the world, and offers instead of worldly joys a joy which He alone can give, but which the world cannot give and cannot take away. Jesus then raises His banner of joy and offers it as lasting and real, without a sting, and calls to men to leave the world and its pleasures and the devil that is running them and enlist under His banner of joy that will last forever. This world gave Him nothing, but He could be filled with the deepest kind of joy and peace

without needing anything the world could give or the devil had to offer. Everlasting peace and joy is on the banner under which He asks subjects to enlist and this same blessed banner is to float over the palaces of His kingdom forever.

THE FINAL ENEMY

At last the hour comes in the life of Jesus when He must go against the enemy called death. Jesus has broken the power of sin by conquering all the devil's temptations and offering His conquering power to His subjects. But all mankind are under the power of death: the awful wages of sin. If Christ is to have subjects this bondage of death must be broken, and He must be able to offer life instead of death to those who come under His banners.

He has made His boasts and the devil and his subjects are made and planning to put Him out of the way. Their very anger and wrath and love of murder is to be the means in God's hands of letting Jesus get into death so He can conquer it. His very enemy the devil is pushing a program of hate that will cause men to kill Jesus, and by the devil's very efforts to destroy Him he is giving Him the great chance for which He has come into the world: namely, to die man's death and conquer death by rising victor over it. He is to be the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. The hour comes. They nail Him to the cross and in the dark, with God's face turned away from Him, He dies, taking the place of men with all their sin.

HE PAYS THE DEBT

The wages of sin is death, and He takes all that wages for a whole race on Himself. He dies an accursed thing of sin, with God's face turned from Him as the curse. He pays the old debt that every subject whom He will afterward get owes, and the subject can come to Him with no old scores unpaid to his old master, sin.

Let us say, for example, that I wish to have a young fellow who is working hard for a certain firm come and work for me, but when I approach him on the subject he tells me

that he is heavily in debt to the company. Before he can come to me those debts must be paid, and if I pay all his debts and tell him he can go free he is then in a position to work for me. Jesus by His death not only paid the debt of sin which His subjects owe, but He conquered death itself, and arose from the grave the living victor over it, and with this tremendous, staggering, offer of sharing His victory with any who would believe Him and become His subjects, He called for recruits. He has added life then to the list of victories on His banner, and offers to those who will become His subjects life instead of death. Praise God! "Death is swallowed up in victory," as the Scriptures say.

FLESH CONQUERED

When Jesus consented to enter death for humanity and conquer it, He did not consult with His flesh. The flesh, the natural mind, draws back from death, but Jesus delivered up the flesh to the death of that shameful cross, and became victor over the flesh.

When the blessed feet of Jesus left the earth and with that resurrection body He made His victorious way back to the throne of God, He left behind Him a complete victory over *the world, the flesh and the devil*. This all may have who believe Him, they may have it here and now. He conquered death and Himself became the first-fruits of them who have slept the sleep of death, and when He comes again before long to get His subjects and usher in the kingdom, He will give all His subjects (those who have left the devil's ranks and the ranks of the world) a glorious body like unto His own glorious body, and with Him here in this old world we will rule and reign, having gotten back all that Adam lost in Eden, and, oh, a thousandfold beside all that.

KING OF KINGS

By His life, death and resurrection He has become King of kings and Lord of lords, and has a name far above every name, and there is coming a day soon when every knee shall bow to Him, even the devil and all his subjects. The world

system as it is shall be done away. The curse shall be lifted from the ground and the living creatures below man. No more place of vice, no more graft and poverty and wrangle and hatred and suffering, and misrule, but righteousness and joy under His loving scepter.

OUR HIGH CALLING

But we who have taken Him as our Saviour and King and Conqueror are called into the highest of callings. We who have been sinners, servants of the devil, rebels before God, refusing to obey His voice, have come over now under His banners and are not only to be His subjects, but are to be His Bride. Think of the great grace and love in the heart of God that could plan such a glorious redemption that one who was a sinner and rebel could become the Queen with the King upon the throne of this wonderful, everlasting kingdom. If this vision strikes your heart you will never think of life the same again. Everything around you will glow with a new meaning, and souls for whom Christ died will become dearer and more valuable than any treasure of earth. You will catch the call of His love to things which angels would love to have, and you will allow nothing that the world has to offer to keep you from the glories that are in Christ, and the majesty that shall be revealed in His kingdom when He appears with ten thousand of His saints and sets up His rule over all the earth. Yes, God and humanity are going to get together by and by, and the kingdoms of the earth shall become the kingdom of our wonderful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and we shall be His Bride. Praise the Lord!

JESUS WAITING

Jesus Christ has defeated all our enemies. Jesus Christ has returned to the throne of His Father, there to wait while men filled with the power of His Spirit carry the news of His victory around the world, and call upon men to forsake their sin and their service of the devil, and join Him and His kingdom. By His wonderful life He offers men a new life. By His wonderful victory He offers victory now. By His won-

derful death and victory over death He offers life forever to all who will take it, and He is now patiently waiting for men to believe Him and turn from darkness unto light.

When the last subject has given His heart to Jesus and the Bride of Christ is made up, then our blessed Saviour, "The Lord Himself, shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, so shall we ever be with the Lord." Thus shall all the believers be caught up and changed in a moment in the twinkling of an eye. Then will they be given their place in the kingdom and return with Him to the earth clothed with power and great might to rule and reign with Him and put down the kingdom of satan and sin with all world powers under man rule. Yes, praise God, we will return.

Listen to God's Word:

"And I saw heaven open and behold a white horse, and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire and on His head were many crowns, and He had a name written that no man knew, but He Himself, and He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses clothed in fine linen, white and clean, and out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture, and on His thigh a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords."

ALL WILL NOT COME UNDER THIS BANNER

Standing in that little boat on the little lake Jesus did not seem a king but He is indeed King of kings and Lord of lords. From that little boat He announced what the kingdom would be like while He was in the glory and was calling through men by His Spirit for subjects. He plainly shows that while the invitation to participate in His glorious victories and to become

one with Him in the coming Kingdom is extended to all, that all will not come, and that of the many, many who do profess to come there will be a great number of pretenders who really do not break with the world and the devil and the flesh, but make a profession only. He shows that a large organization will come into being, which people can join, but that it will not be made up of real subjects of this coming kingdom but of some who are real subjects and many who are pretenders but who in fact are of the world, and have not stood against satan in the power of Jesus' name and sought to do His will.

SOME HEAR HIS WORDS

Out of the boat speaking to the multitude that day Jesus shows by the parable of the sower that the whole world will not be saved before He ushers in His kingdom. He shows that some hear of His great offer but pay no attention to it. These are the stony ground sort. Some hear it and start but they can't stand to be laughed at, and they stop. These are the shallow-soil quitters. Some start and get a good growth, but the world calls too loudly and they keep company with the same old gang, and they get choked, and you never hear any more about them but that "they started, but—" Some get busy and believe with all their heart and love Him and trust Him and expect Him to do all He promises, and stick true to Him and the interests of His kingdom—these are the real subjects. He'll rule the kingdom with these.

ANOTHER WAVE OF PARABLE

Then He lets another wave roll and break in parable form, saying "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed wheat in his field, but while he slept his enemy sowed tares." Here He shows that while true Christianity will be in the world, while He is in the glory waiting for subjects, the enemy will start something that looks like Christianity and get folks to join it and it will all be under His name; the organization will be called a church and will act like a church, and yet it will be no more made up of His real subjects than tares can be wheat, though they may look alike to some folks. In this par-

able He asks a question: Shall the tares be pulled up? The answer is that they shall both grow along together until the harvest or the time when He gathers His subjects, then He'll catch up His own, but the bluffers, the four-flushers, the hypocrites, or as the parable calls them, the tares, He will put in the fire. That doesn't sound like the world was going to get better and better, until it would all be good at the harvest time. No, sir, wheat is wheat and tares tares up to the harvest, and then the wheat gets the kingdom and the tares get the fire.

ANOTHER WAVE

Next He says that the kingdom of heaven, while He is in the glory waiting for subjects, is like a mustard seed planted in a field that, though it is small it somehow has a very peculiar growth and keeps it up; yes, a very unnatural growth until it becomes a tree so that the birds of the air lodge in its branches. Here He shows that the organization upon which men put His name will become very popular so that the demons of hell will roost around in it but it will not be sincere and true throughout. What better picture than this of a place called a church pulling off a show or an organization calling itself Christian giving a dance, could be found? They have the name and the gathering but they are not of the kingdom. They seem to do big things but the big things are roosts for the devil and not for the One who conquered the world, and was not of the world.

THE JEW

Again He speaks of His buying a field because it has a hidden treasure. You remember God's great promises to the Jews and you must remember they are never forgotten. The Jews are scattered, yes, many of the tribes lost, but they are in this field called the world, and Christ has bought and paid for this world, and His own treasure the Jew is in it, and He will fulfil all His promises to him.

A PRECIOUS PEARL

Yet again Christ speaks of the kingdom of heaven as a goodly pearl for which a man sells all he has and buys it. Jesus gave up all He had for this believing crowd of His subjects, which He calls the *ecclesia*—*the called out one*—*the Church*. This is His Bride. Through them He is speaking to the world to-day. They have not all been gathered in yet, but when the last one has said yes to Him and come under His banner, that long expected shout will fill the heavens and the voice of the archangel and the trump of God shall sound, and we will be with our King, and sit down to the bridal supper. The kingdom will have come.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

Think of all that He offers you, my friend. What have you done with this wonderful offer of life and a kingdom? Are you professing without possessing? Have you come out openly for Jesus and cut a clean line between yourself and the world, or are you trying to play both sides? Have you sworn a fight in Jesus' name against the flesh, are you enjoying victory in Jesus? Line up now. If you are ashamed of Him before men He will be ashamed of you before His Father in heaven.

You must do something with Jesus—
Neutral you cannot be.
Some day your heart will be asking
"What will He do with me?"

He is waiting for subjects. Powers are being shaken. His kingdom will soon be ushered in.



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